

EUGENE **Weekly** FREE **UNCORKED** *EW'S GUIDE TO WINE*

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p. 4

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MAY 22, 2008 ★ VOL. XXVII ★ NO. 21 ★ WWW.EUGENEWEEKLY.COM ★ BLOGS.EUGENEWEEKLY.COM ★ IT'S FREE!



BAIT AND KILL

**Eugene soldier
resists more
deadly missions,
page 16**

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 Michael Franti and Spearhead play the Cuthbert Amphitheatre Saturday




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It Takes a Village To Raise an Owl

Shannon Poynter's border collie discovered it first – a grapefruit-sized mound of grayish fluff lying on the forest succession trail in the Tyrrell Seed Orchard south of Lorane. Poynter, co-owner of Hey Bayles! Farm, recognized the creature as a baby owl and paused in her daily run to scoop it up. "I ran all the way home with it wrapped in my T-shirt," she said in the first of several phone calls – attempts to reunite baby "Louie" with his parents.

Spring is, as Frost observed, nature's "hardest hue to hold," and it occasionally loses its grip on baby owls. Orphaned by logging or hay machines – or simply by falling out of the nest – the tiny birds may require human assistance in order to survive.

A bird of prey has a difficult first year, what with learning to hunt, navigating possible predators and flying into barbed-wire fences or cars. Faced with an injured raptor, Lane County residents invariably flock to help, showing that it sometimes takes a village to raise an owl.

Laurin Huse of Cascades Raptor Center set the big-eyed bird gently on her exam table for an check-up. She determined that he'd fallen from his nest; the spongy duff of the trail possibly cushioned him from breaks to his wing- or leg-bones. CRC's executive director, Louise Shimmel, explained how to offer the owl bits of mouse from forceps. "Stand behind him when you feed," she told my husband, longtime CRC volunteer Jonathan Smith, "so he won't see you and imprint on humans."

Jonathan, a photographer employed at the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, fed the bird up and made a date with Poynter to scour the Seed Orchard's trail for adult great-horned owls the next day. Toting his laptop and a CD called "Voices of North American Owls," he hiked into the forest. "We'll play 'Fledgling Begging Call,'" he told Poynter, who stopped near a 50-foot fir.

"I found the baby right here," she said, "but I can't find the nest." She backtracked toward Jonathan's laptop propped on a stone and looked up. "Wait." She pointed. "Is that it?"

He peered up at the loose configuration of sticks and what looked to be dirt-clods, 30 feet up in the branches of the Doug fir. "Possibly," he said, and cued his computer. An unearthly screeching filled the forest, silencing songbirds. He scanned the sky. "If the parents are still around, and they hear this sound, they'll fly to the nest."

But they didn't, not even when he played a solid hour of Fledgling Begging Call on a loop. "I'll go make a call," he told Poynter. But in his car outside Lorane Market and Deli, his cell phone lost signal.

"Well, sure, you can use the phone," the deli owner told him. Munching on one of her M&M-studded ranger cookies on the sunlit patio, Jonathan called Scott Altenhoff, city arborist, who volunteers to climb trees whenever CRC needs a nest scoped out or a baby redeposited.

"I'll be up at first light," Altenhoff promised. The next morning, he shouldered a backpack of climbing equipment and followed Jonathan and his laptop into the forest. He set up lines and prepared to ascend the fir. "I'll take photos of the nest so you can see what it looks like," he said and gracefully ascended, via cable and pulley, up into the tree.

"Doesn't look good," he called down. "No food scraps, no pellets." He examined the area, and eased himself onto the ground. "No sign of the parents," he concluded.

Jonathan packed up his laptop and returned to Shimmel, undaunted. "What's the next step?" he asked.

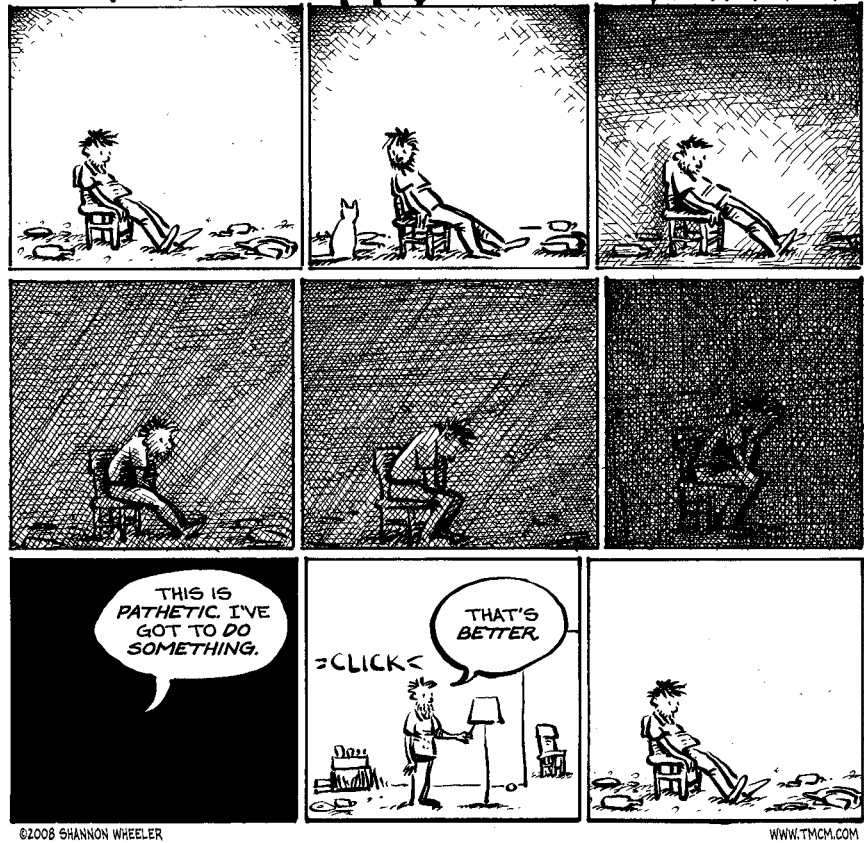
Enter Juno and Lorax. The two great-horned owls, each with a permanent injury, reside in a spacious enclosure at CRC. They'll teach Louie how to be a bird. Right now, volunteers wear ghost costumes while feeding him. "We want him to like the costume and not us," Shimmel explains. But as soon as he's old enough to eat from a plate on his own, he'll move out of the clinic and in with his foster mothers. Over the summer, when he's proven his ability to fly and catch live prey in the center's 50-foot flight arena, Jonathan will return him to the Seed Farm. Then, Poynter may well hear his melodious call on her evening runs and know that she – along with a caring community – helped an owl to survive.



Scott Altenhoff ascends the fir

Melissa Hart currently teaches environmental writing at the UO and can be reached at melissah@uoregon.edu The Cascades Raptor Center's website is www.eraptors.org

How to Be Happy (OPERA ORIGIN) by Shannon Wheeler



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

USELESS COMMISSIONERS

The problem of power is how ... to get men of power to live for the public rather than off the public. — Robert F. Kennedy

Lane County commissioners receive a salary of \$72,000 per year, and with staff and benefits their cost is probably well over \$100,000 per year. This is costing us, the taxpayers, more than half a million dollars per year for this commission. After years they still seem to have only two solutions for the county's financial problem: Cut services or impose additional taxes on the lower and middle income taxpayers.

In the 1973-75 budget cycle, corporations paid 18.5 percent of all income taxes. In the 2005-07 budget cycle, corporations are expected to pay just 4.6 percent of Oregon's income taxes. It is projected by 2009-11, corporations are expected to pay 4.4 percent of Oregon income taxes.

In 1999 House Bill 3575 was stealthily passed, granting forest owners of more than 5,000 acres another unearned scoop of tax relief by gradually abolishing their timber harvest taxes. The affect, reported in *The Oregonian*, costs the state education fund \$58 million. Last year, it is estimated that we lost a total of somewhere between \$100,000 to \$200,000. And then there is the special property tax relief estimated to amount in the billions!

With the above thoughts in mind, the commissioners need to represent the "people" and urge our state and federal representatives to right this wrong. Urge them to return to "fair" taxation! And if they cannot become creative for the half a million dollars that we pay them each year, then they should also cut the board of commission from five to three. Let's be fair!

Ron Davis
Cottage Grove

OBNOXIOUS TWITS

I just had some woman who identified

herself as a volunteer and a "classroom teacher" phone on behalf of Sen. Clinton to pitch for my support. When I said that I wasn't sure yet that and that I truly hadn't decided, she proceed to piss all over Obama to make me see how Clinton would be the better choice. When I told her that this behavior of hers was not helping her cause, she tried pissing on Obama a little more.

I told her that I had the ballot on my desk and that she'd decided this for me; I was voting for Obama. She proceeded to try to lay guilt trips on me about how it was all my decision and "Well, I hope you can live with your decision!" shortly before she hung up on me.

Jeezus, you'd think they'd train people that are volunteering NOT to be obnoxious twits (or maybe some other vowel). Without her help, I would've probably gone with Clinton, but not after this. I really did just complete my ballot for Obama simply because the volunteer was so distasteful.

John Hedtke
Eugene

NEBRASKA SKUNK POSE

I wasn't aware there was a "tornado in a Mason jar" controversy about the American Apparel ads in your paper until I read the letter to the editor in your May 8 edition. I don't know if this latest ad is the same as an earlier one, but it is hilariously funny for someone who recently moved here from the High Plains.

The poor model's pose is classic Nebraska skunk! A recommended position when one is suffering from severe abdominal cramps due to an oversupply of intestinal gas.

The image brings to mind one of my grandmother's old sayings: "Fools' names and fools' faces, often seen in public places."

I hope the poor girl is feeling better

Morgan Songi
Eugene

GLAD OR MAD

Michael Crane's "Awful Writing" letter (5/8) criticizing Sally Sheklow was itself awfully low, for he must have flunked Writing 101. Sheklow is great at catching and holding readers' attention through her catchy unorthodox writing style. Sheklow is no Maureen Dowd, but she knows how to get and hold the attention of readers and make them glad or mad depending on their beliefs and lifestyles. It wasn't her best piece, but one cannot write a best piece every time. Give her some slack, and she will snap right back; just don't put your hand anywhere near her mouth!

Bob Saxton
Eugene

OUR WEEKLY SPRAWL

I sometimes wonder how *Eugene Weekly* would smear candidates or professionals in the business and development fields if the word "sprawl" was removed from the English language. However, I needn't worry. Knowing the *Weekly*, it would surely find a way.

Roxie Cuellar
Yachats

JEZEBEL BUSES

When I was an adolescent growing up in that nearly nostalgic bygone era of the 1990s, I lived with my mother in Albany, and her only stable source of income was the child support money my father sent her every month. A good deal of that money usually ended up at the Mountain of Foolish Spirits (other wise known as Spirit Mountain Casino). Every month she would spend whatever amount she could get away with spending at the wretched place. Usually it was after she'd been badgered into paying the monthly bills, but one night in 1997 I came home to the motel we lived at (our third motel since getting kicked out of our third apartment complex) to find the office light on the phone blinking. Turns out that the management wanted to know where the hell was last week's rent. I told them that mom had shown up at school telling me

she'd paid some bills and was off to Salem to "study for her food handlers card."

The food handlers card bit was a lie I'd heard often enough before to know what was really up. She'd made another journey to the Mountain of Foolish Spirits and left me to the wolves. I spent that evening on the street until almost midnight when a friend's parents talked me into reporting myself abandoned.

I can't imagine for a single instant that I am the only kid that had such hardships befall them because of gambloholoc parents and the institutions that help relieve them of currency better spent on bills and food.

Since moving back to Eugene last year, I've grown accustomed to seeing buses with bold, garish ads emblazoned on the sides. In just this past month however, a sickening sight has started to become all too common, LTD completely covered with advertisements for the Mountain of Foolish Spirits. I find this to be fucking revolting! I don't even want to hear the B.S. of people who'd say "Oh, that kind of advertisement doesn't really work." Of course it does. Why the hell do you think companies keep doing it? Even one mother or father seeing one of those painted jezebel buses and getting the itch to go blow some money on the false hopes of striking it rich is too much.

I have some questions for the LTD administrators: How much money are you getting paid to whore out your buses? Is it enough to help you sleep at night? More importantly, how much money do you think you're inspiring parents to spend there instead of on their children?

Greg Basore
Eugene

HANG-OVER CYNICISM

Deb Huntley ("Eugene Not Exempt," 5/15), you must be off your rocker. Maya Angelou and John Grisham are "very wise writers"? MoveOn.org, the DNC and Obama have "tried everything short of hog-tying" the presumptive losing Democratic candidate? Wesley Clark is considered a feather in Hillary Clinton's cap? Oh, goodness. Worst

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

of all, you chalk up your candidate's lack of support by young, intelligent people — a dead giveaway in itself — to some massive corporate conspiracy. I'm sorry; that's just plain ridiculous.

First of all, John Grisham is a lawyer-cum-hack and artistic shill who cranks out ready-made screenplays that truck in obviousness and easy morality. Maya Angelou is a second-rate poet of spiritual platitudes who has an incredible knack, as *The Nation's* Alexander Cockburn pointed out, for always being in the wrong place at the right time — for instance, showing up regularly in the corrupt, Clinton-run White House of the '90s. And Wesley Clark is just a gibbering moron. I'd rather be endorsed by a circus clown than this trio of Tweedle-Dee, Tweedle-Dumb and Tweedle-Dumber.

I suspect that Clinton's relative lack of support among young, educated people has more to do with the hangover cynicism generated by a Bill Clinton presidency that came out of the gates reneging on campaign promises and then proceeded to sell out every liberal idea it professed in order to get elected.

Young, intelligent people likely see that Hillary, similar to her husband, is possessed by the same indiscriminating ambition that allows her to sew fear (remember that LBJ-like "3 am telephone call" threat), barely disguised racist assertions and then, finally, faux-fellow-feeling in order to one-up Obama, who for his part has tried to rise above the obscene crap of the American

electoral process.

Please, Ms. Huntley, go back to your *Rainmakers* and *Caged Birds*, and leave the political analysis to people who aren't duped by the rote truisms and paranoid delusions of your brand of liberalism. Let them hogtie the pig.

Rick Levin
Eugene

CHINA'S RECORD

In response to Jared McKinney's letter (5/1): There are plenty of other reasons to boycott Olympics and not buy "made in China".

China support the most despotic dictatorship in the world — North Korea. China provides weapons of death and destruction all over the world. China is doing everything it can to destroy Israel, and supports dictators all over the world.

China has started an arms race in the Far East, which Russia has already joined. China's record on ALL human rights. China's illegal activities in Africa and the Western Hemisphere: spying, bribing, etc.

And the list goes on and on.

And China is able to finance all of the above with *our* money!

Even though it won't make any difference to the success or failure of China's Olympics. The vast majority of those attending the Olympics will be Asian.

Frank Skipton
Springfield



Free Class Options:

- 8:00-9:00am Deep Water Aerobics (Big Pool)
- 9:00-10:00am Gentle Yoga (Meadow Room)
- 10:30-11:30am Circle Swim (Big Pool)
- 10:30-12:00pm Strength & Stretch (Movement Center)
- 11:30-12:15pm Arthritis Movement (Small Pool)

Free!

A day designed especial for those 60 and older. Enjoy a day at the YMCA and find just what you are looking for.

May 29th, 2008 Thursday 8-1:30

Free Activities:

- 8:45-10:30am Blood Pressure Check
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- 9:30-10:15am Talk: Nutrition Basics (Beck Center)
- 9:30-12:30pm Free 10-minute Chair Massage (Lobby)
- 10:30-12:00pm Wii Bowling (Beck Center)
- 11:45-12:15pm Blood Pressure Check
Flexibility Tests (Lobby)
- 12:15-1:00pm Talk: Helpful Hints for Your Body While You Garden (Beck Center)
- 1:00-1:30pm Wii Bowling (Beck Center)

Information Tables:

- Cortesia Solomon's Seal Tincture w/ Tricia Clark-McDowell
- Keep Moving Information from Tylenol
- DTV Information from KVAL



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MINDLESS HATRED

Cutesy-poo Eric Miller (“RIP, Moses,” *EW Letters* 5/8/08) enjoyed writing “Will someone please go get the gun out of Charlton Heston’s hands now?” reminding me that the widow Heston is still mourning for those used-to-be warm hands attached to a man who left a legacy of achievements as a decorated war veteran (WWII, B-12 pilot) and was also the receiver of both national and international awards.

I am left to wonder at the life of the crass Miller and what it is that he has achieved even in a parallel age-related comparison.

Perhaps he is part of the local “Million Moms March” (they are not, and have never been a million moms) gun Nazi anti-rights bunch — that would explain the thoughtless hate that made it into print.

*Dan Moore
Springfield*

BAD DECISION

Having been a SMART volunteer for many years, I know how vital the school coordinators are to the success of the program. They work doggedly for little more than minimum wage because they know how important it is for children to become proficient in reading. The recent decision by SMART to transition the coordinators’ positions from paid to volunteer is a slap in the face to those individuals, and will leave them with little choice but to seek employment elsewhere.

The decision would at least be

understandable if SMART were severely strapped for funds, but that is not the case. As of June 30, 2007, SMART has net assets of \$4 million and spent more than \$750,000 on fundraising in one year alone. Although SMART’s chief financial officer would not disclose the salary and benefits of the newly hired executive director, the latest figures available to the public seem to indicate that SMART’s top four positions average over \$70,000 in salary and benefits, whereas the average school coordinator makes less than \$4,000 and receives no benefits.

According to the SMART newsletter, it takes \$300 to fund one child. With coordinator receiving a fraction of the, book costs being one-tenth of it, and readers being volunteers, just how is the bulk of that \$300 being spent?

The policy makers of SMART are kidding themselves if they think their program will not be dramatically affected when experienced coordinators are replaced by novice volunteers.

They would be wise to reverse their decision.

*Ken Raymen
Springfield*

SHEDD APPRECIATED

To the Shedd Institute’s instructors, staff and students: We always knew this day would come. I’ve enjoyed the time I’ve spent with you the last two years. Thank you to the students and their families for letting me share in your musical successes



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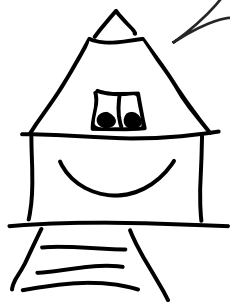
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



endeavors and life learning. I hope to see you in other settings around Eugene in the coming months.

Rachel Phariss
Eugene

SOY NOT THE PROBLEM

In his letter (5/8) describing the ways that Paradise City Café is a green business, Norman Lent says, “My greatest green commitment is in reducing soy as much as possible.” Lent then explains that planting of soy causes deforestation. This argument

contains a serious error. It is important to realize that all this soy being grown is to feed livestock, not people. When plants are fed to animals whose flesh, milk or eggs will be eaten, the amount of animal food produced is far less than the amount of plant food fed to the animals. The feed-to-meat ratio varies depending on species and location, but on average it is 4:1. About 80 percent of the crops grown in the U.S. are grown as livestock feed.

Therefore, the way to protect the rainforest is not to avoid soy, but to avoid

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animal foods. More than 90 percent of all Amazon rainforest land cleared has been cleared for meat production.

Animal agriculture is the world's largest source of water pollution, emits two-thirds of the world's acid rain causing ammonia, contributes more to global warming than anything else and uses huge amounts of water and energy (half the water and one third the petroleum in the U.S.). The negative impact of animal agriculture on the environment cannot be overstated.

Mr. Lent could best demonstrate his commitment to the environment by serving up only plant-based foods. Now that would truly be green.

Nettie Schwager
Corvallis

TARGETING IRAN

The Bush administration has not yet managed to provoke war with Iran, but its attempts may be escalating. Andrew Cockburn reports that Bush has signed a secret "finding" authorizing a covert offensive against the Iranian regime that may include assassinating targeted officials, aiding militant groups hostile to Iran, and destabilizing Syria. Members of the congressional intelligence committees reportedly approved \$300 million to fund such actions (counterpunch.org 5/2).

If true, this report is deeply disturbing. There is no plausible justification for attacking Iran. The Bush administration continues to ignore the maxim that "when you're in a deep hole, you should stop digging." Instead, it has insisted on humiliating preconditions for negotiations. It has refused to approach Iran with respect, to offer security guarantees, or to take regime change off the table. Now it has reportedly authorized a broad range of dangerously provocative and morally indefensible actions.

Iran's inflammatory rhetoric certainly does not help. But threatening military action strengthens the hand of hard-liners and makes life more difficult for Iranian democrats and reformers, who have pleaded

in vain for an end to U.S. provocations. Iran does not have nuclear weapons and has signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, which permits plutonium enrichment. It would be inexcusable to provoke another war, one likely to produce regional conflagration and humanitarian disaster—and especially without even attempting sustained, direct negotiations without preconditions.

For more information, see irannuclearwatch.blogspot.com and *Targeting Iran*, David Barsamian's book with Noam Chomsky, Ervand Abrahamian and Nahid Mozaffari.

Robert Roth
Eugene

AN HONEST STRANGER

Anyone who has ever had their wallet stolen or absentmindedly misplaced knows the great vulnerability and stomach-sinking anxiety of it all. Not only is personal information at risk with the threat of identity theft, but entire accounts can be cleaned out in less than an hour.

Perhaps the real damage comes when one realizes the headache and financial hit of replacing state-issued IDs, passports, and bus passes. It is no small endeavor to send away for birth certificates to prove citizenship and then to stand in line for hours at governmental agencies, waiting a turn to explain the situation. To add insult to injury, the victim must then pay for all replacements and pray that they don't get pulled over in the meantime.

When I discovered that my wallet had mysteriously disappeared this morning, the unnerved panic set in. I canceled bank cards, filed police reports and closed accounts. The real surprise came when my phone rang. A woman had found my wallet in a parking lot and wanted to return it. My belief in humanity's honesty and kindness has been reaffirmed. My warmest thanks goes out to Nina Sanchez.

I am delighted to know that some of you are left.

T.D. Turner
Eugene



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COUGHING UP FOR THE BAGS

Lane County Commissioners next week will be hearing arguments from local recycling advocates for establishing a countywide fee on paper and plastic grocery bags.

Talking to the commissioners around 10 am Wednesday, May 28, will be Julie Daniel, executive director of BRING Recycling; Terry McDonald, executive director of St. Vincent de Paul; and Sarah Grimm, Lane County waste management specialist.

Also at the meeting will be local activist Bob Cassidy, who has been researching this idea for some time. Cassidy says it makes sense economically and environmentally for Lane County to follow the lead of other countries and cities that have cut plastic bag use by as much as 90 percent.

"Bob approached the commissioners with an idea to raise funds for the county," says Daniel. "(Commissioner) Pete Sorensen asked me my opinion, and while I thought Bob's original proposal would have difficulty politically, I agreed the concept had potential and was worth looking into. ... I applaud the commissioners' willingness to explore the possibilities."

Daniel says many communities are looking at or have already implemented bag fees, for a variety of reasons. "Ireland was the pioneer, and has had a successful plastic bag program for some time."

Seattle activists, with the backing of Mayor Greg Nickels, proposed a 20-cent fee on both paper and plastic bags in April. The city ordinance would also ban take-out food containers that can't be recycled or composted. Seattle consumers currently use about 360 million disposable bags each year, and most end up in landfills. San Francisco banned disposable plastic grocery bags last year, and other California cities are looking into it.

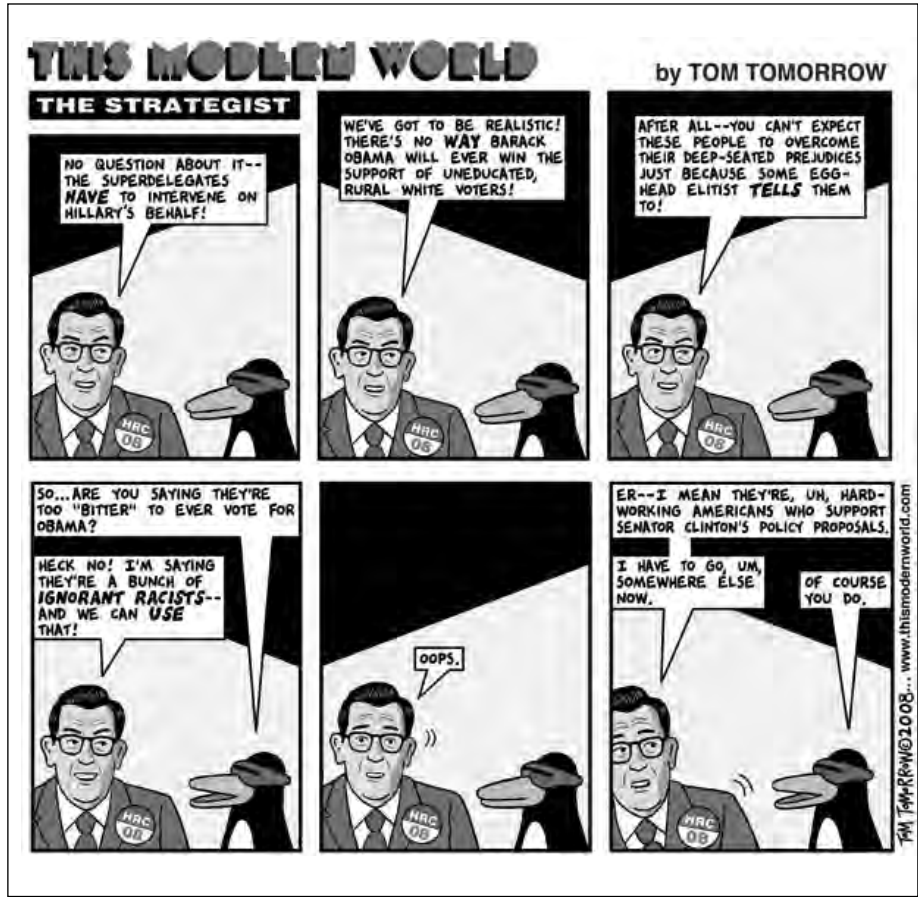
Why a fee on both paper and plastic bags? "If you put a fee on plastic, you'd just drive everyone to paper," says Daniel. "Both paper and plastic have considerable environmental impact, and you'd be hard pressed to say one is 'better' than the other, since impact occurs during production rather than at end of life. ... Plastic bags pose an extra end of life issue – litter – which ends up in places it shouldn't and causes additional problems."

Grimm favors a fee paid by customers rather than by stores. "Big stores could cover the tax and not impose it on customers, which would give them advantage over little stores," she says.

Cassidy says the bag fee could generate much-needed revenue for the county, but Daniel figures the revenue would shrink over time as people change their bag habits.

The idea is not new in Oregon. The Ashland Community Food Store began charging customers a nickel a bag more than a dozen years ago, and some local grocery stores give customers a nickel credit for every used paper bag they bring in for reuse.

If the county pursues the idea, many issues would need to be resolved: how much to charge customers, how the fees would be collected and administered, where the money would go, whether stores would get a service fee back and how to deal with the new biodegradable plastic bags. The commissioners could also look at putting the proposal to the voters. – *Ted Taylor*



news Briefs

4J SEEKS TO SAVE TEACHERS WITH LEVY

To avoid cutting funds for about 160 teachers, Eugene School District 4J Superintendent George Russell has proposed that the district send a renewal of its local option levy to voters this November.

The new levy would generate about \$15 million a year and cost the average homeowner about \$250 a year.

The expiring levy passed in November 2004 with a 72 percent yes vote.

Local option levies are one of the few ways local voters have to increase local school funding. In 1990 state voters passed Measure 5 capping local property taxes and equalizing school funding regardless of local tax levels. In 1999 the Legislature allowed school districts to supplement their state money with local option levies.

The 4J levy would generate about the maximum local revenue the district is allowed. The state capped local option revenue at 20 percent of state funding.

The complicated local option levies tax the gap between a property's Measure 5 capped assessed value and its value under Measure 50, a later property tax measure. Generally, properties that had increased more rapidly in market value have a bigger gap.

The state formula shifts more of the tax burden from industrial property owners to homeowners and commercial properties.

Under 4J's levy homeowners would pay about \$1.48 per \$1,000 of value and commercial properties about \$1.46. Industrial property, which generally trails in rising real estate values, would pay only \$1.10 per \$1,000 more.

The 4J local option levy is not to be confused with the city of Eugene's property tax levy for schools, which generated about \$8 million a year after passing with a 54 percent yes vote in 2002. In 2006 the Oregon Tax Court ruled that the city school levy violated Measure 5, and the city decided not to put the expiring four-year levy up for renewal.

Portland schools have evaded Measure 5 by passing an income tax for local schools. Both mayoral candidate Kitty Piercy and Jim Torrey supported the city levy for schools. *EW* asked them at a May 14 Fox TV debate if they would support an income tax for schools to reduce class sizes.

Torrey said the focus now should be on 4J's local option levy. "Let's step up to that issue first."

Piercy said if 4J officials approved of the idea, "I'm more than willing to talk about it." — *Alan Pittman*

TO SPRAY OR NOT TO SPRAY

Carly Barnicle and Ian Van Ornum, co-directors of "Crazy" People for Wild Places (CPWP), don white hazardous material suits. Sweating under the 90-degree weather at the Farmers' Market, they hand out flyers to promote a demonstration about the pesticide and herbicide sprayings on the side of I-5.

The demonstration, scheduled for noon on Friday, May 30, at Kesey Square, will begin with speakers from Pitchfork Rebellion, OPAG, Forestland Dwellers and the Organic Trade Association. Open mic

Happening people

BY PAUL NEEVEL

GENE CHISM

The youngest of six kids from a single-parent household in Riverside, Calif., Gene Chism was the first in his family to earn a college degree. "I wanted to go to school away from home," says Chism, who moved to Eugene. "It was all about having fun." It was three years after college, in 2000, that Chism got serious about education. "I got a job as an educational assistant at Springfield Middle School," he says. "In my second year, I worked with special-needs children. I felt a calling to teach them." In his third year, Chism was hired as multi-cultural liaison to three Springfield middle schools. He developed an after-school program called FACES (Freely Accepting the Culture of Every Student), "It's my vision of using unconventional teaching to reach students," he says. "Everyone has a love of music and dance." For five years, Chism has put on a RED (Respecting Everyone's Differences) Day at the three schools, featuring food, crafts, music and speakers representing many cultures around the world. Also back in school at the UO since '05, Chism will finish a master's in special education next spring.



Crazy People for Wild Places' Ian Van Ornum and Carly Barnicle



CALI BAGBY

time will be allotted for the community. Barnicle hopes that people will be able to share their personal stories. "There are so many pesticide horror stories out there," she says.

At 1 pm the demonstration will move to Harlow Bridge on Coburg road by bike, foot or car to drop a banner. Barnicle and Van Ornum hope for a large turnout.

"We want people to gain awareness," says Van Ornum. "Pesticides are detrimental to humans, plants and other wildlife. We want to tell them how they can get involved." Flyers will be provided with the names of people and places to contact to stop pesticide spraying.

"The Oregon Transportation Commission is proposing to the Oregon Department of Transportation a pilot that is a last resort no spray policy. It would prohibit routine seasons spray policy to 1-5 [and Hwys.] 58, 126, 36 and 99," says Barnicle. "Instead of spraying there would be manual labor for pulling weeds, planting competitive species or mulch. It's the perfect time to show support for a no-spray policy."

Next year the CPWP focus will be the fight to make the UO a pesticide free campus. "We're 'crazy' because we want to preserve natural beauty," says Van Ornum.

For more information contact Van Ornum at ivanornu@uoregon.edu

INQUIRY OR INDOCTRI-NATION?

Does the freedom to teach and learn flourish in American universities? Does it flourish when a professor indoctrinates students with his or her political views? Is the latter a regular occurrence?

Cary Nelson, president of the American Association of University Professors, and David Horowitz, president of the Freedom Center, debated these issues at Northwest Christian College's Morse Event Center May 19. NCC and the UO hosted the debate collaboratively as part of the UO Contrarian Forum, a new program to foster critical discussion of controversial issues.

Nelson accused Horowitz, who has

drafted an Academic Bill of Rights that would bar faculty from indoctrinating students with their own political views, of wanting to institute surveillance and reduce education to a service industry. He said while professors do sometimes inappropriately impose their political views on students, only 1/10th of 1 percent of the population of professors commits these excesses, which the existing system is capable of resolving. He added that failure to police intellectual aggression usually only happens on pervasively dysfunctional campuses that also fail to prosecute physical assaults and protect professors' academic freedom. Furthermore, the tenure system has weakened to the point that professors no longer have as much freedom to express controversial ideas as they did in the past, Nelson said.

Horowitz identified himself as politically conservative and a defender of the university's independence, adding he does not advocate spying on teachers. He described his experiences speaking on 400 college campuses over the past 20 years. He said metal detectors and security personnel are sometimes present at his lectures; posters advertising his lectures have been vandalized; and he can't discuss reparations for slavery, the Iraq War or Islamofascism without a bodyguard.

"University administrators tolerate intimidation on their campuses," Horowitz said.

Horowitz said liberal bias is so prevalent in academia that people don't even see it when it happens and that some entire university departments are set up to indoctrinate students with a particular ideology rather than inform them of a wide variety of ideas. He read out loud the mission statement of the UO Women's and Gender Studies Program, which said the program "examines the meaning of gender as a socially constructed category." Other fields of inquiry, such as biology, neuroscience and evolutionary psychology note gender differences from innate rather than environmental causes, he said, and Horowitz expressed concern that students in the Women's and Gender Studies Program would not learn about those perspectives.

Barbara Warnick, professor of communication at the University of Pittsburgh, was

• Pivotal races for Eugene mayor and county commission appear headed for a **runoff in November**.

In unofficial final results, candidates in both races failed to cross the 50 percent threshold needed to avoid a runoff. Mayor Kitty Piercy led Jim Torrey 48.4 percent to 47.8 percent. Rob Handy led County Commissioner Bobby Green 48.7 percent to 44.9 percent.

The most important election here was not Barack Obama. He'd already sewn up the state and the Democratic nomination for President. The most important races were a battle for control of local government between pro-sprawl developers, represented by Torrey and Green and pro-livability environmentalists, represented by Piercy and Handy.

A November runoff could favor conservatives Torrey and Green. Republican turnout will be higher in November. Torrey and Green will be able to tap deeper developer pockets for an extended campaign.

Already developer, gravel pit and construction interests have stuffed Torrey's pockets with a quarter million dollars, outspending Piercy two to one. Will developers spend a half million dollars by November to buy the mayor's race?

To win, Piercy will have to run a more aggressive campaign. From early returns, it appears that perhaps a thousand Obama voters didn't bother to vote in the mayor's race. Piercy needs to educate new voters on campus that Torrey is a pro-Bush closet Republican.

She will also need to fight biased news coverage in *The Register-Guard*, which gets parroted back by local radio and TV news. The R-G downplayed Torrey's developer money and Republican background and ran a string of negative stories in the days before the election.

Handy faces many of the same obstacles as Piercy. He won't be able to sneak up on Green now that development interests know that their profitable grip on county government is in peril. Handy may be in slightly better position as he holds a 4 percentage point lead and is more likely to capture the 6 percent of votes that went to minor candidates.

We're happy to see that Eugene City Councilor Andrea Ortiz trounced John Crane despite being massively outspent by developer interests.

The election of three more progressive EWEB board members should serve as a jolt to the public utility. This city won't tolerate wanton development of the riverfront or rates that favor corporations over citizens.

At the state level, we hope that the election of John Kroger will shake up the Attorney General's office to work as the people's advocate rather than the corporate lawyer for the state bureaucracy.

Getting back to Barack Obama: His solid victory here gave Oregon – one of the whitest states in the nation – an international reputation for racial tolerance that will serve it well.

• **Little mistake, maybe.** The Sunday, May 11, issue of the national summer arts calendar in *The New York Times* offered one Oregon listing: "Oregon Bach Festival. Portland, June 27-July 13." That's probably what happens when the festival opens in Portland, as it does this year, partly because of the Olympic Trials and partly because of the prospect of deeper pockets in the big city. But it is a wee alert to all of us who love the festival right here in Eugene where Royce Saltzman and Helmuth Rilling started and nurtured it. Bach belongs to Eugene, from beginning to end.

• **Wink & Kink** is our popular new packaging of the personals ads we've been running for 25 years. We've gotten several complaints about the content, but nothing in the ads has really changed. Only the name is different, and people looking to connect can now self-select whether their interests fall into the conventional "Wink" or less inhibited "Kink" categories. Our human urge to merge expresses itself in a thousand variations. And some folks are reserved and refined in seeking connection, while others are blunt and get straight to the point. Not all the Wink & Kink ads from our website go in print. We try to spare our print readers from ads that are gratuitously explicit.

Worried about kids reading our personals or Savage Love? Most children under about 12 just aren't interested. In the teen years, kids are very interested, even obsessed. This is a good age for parents and kids to engage in frank and nonjudgmental discussions about sex and sexuality. You might be surprised at how much they know – and how much bad information they have picked up from other kids.

• **China's earthquake** followed Myanmar's cyclone which followed a quake in Pakistan and a string of other catastrophes around the globe. Ironically, the more death and destruction we see on TV and read about in newspapers, the less money we are inclined to give to charitable relief organizations. Lisa Tolin of AP calls it "disaster fatigue," being overwhelmed by never-ending and seemingly hopeless crisis, on top of our own economic worries. But we who have resources and are not living under plastic sheets in the rubble can make a difference, even save lives. We urge everyone who can to donate to a reputable organization such as Direct Relief International (www.directrelief.org), which distributes aid where it's most needed and can be used most effectively.

SLANT includes short opinion pieces, observations and rumor-chasing notes compiled by the EW staff. Heard any good rumors lately? Contact Ted Taylor at 484-0519, editor@eugeneweekly.com

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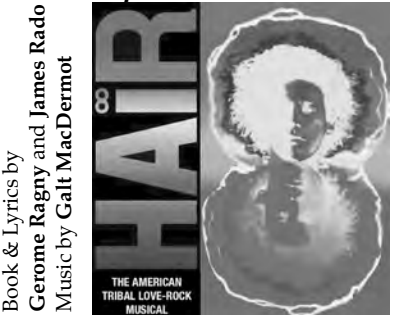
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news Briefs

one of the debate's moderators. She asked Nelson and Horowitz repeatedly to clarify whether provocation equaled debate and whether the persecution of an individual was relevant to the issue being debated.

"As a member of the audience, I would be frustrated," Warnick said after the debate, adding that both parties failed to support their arguments with factual evidence, relied too heavily on anecdotal evidence and left many points unaddressed. — *Eva Sylwester*

HEALTH CARE REFORM ADVANCING

When it comes to reforming health insurance, the political climate has changed a lot and will change more before the 2009 legislative session, according to Frank Turner, a Eugene doctor. "National political leaders (with notable exceptions) are committed to universal health care," he says. "Most doctors now favor a centralized federally managed health care system. Citizens overwhelmingly favor the same and are willing to work and pay for it."

The Oregon Health Fund Board, now in its second year, is nearing the end of its assigned task: proposing a universal, sustainable, accountable health care system for Oregon. The board plans to send its proposals to the Legislature by October, hoping for action in January 2009.

WAR DEAD

**Since the U.S. invasion
of Iraq began on
March 20, 2003**

(last week's numbers in parentheses):

- **4,079 U.S. troops killed*** (4,071)
- **29,978 U.S. troops injured*** (29,395)
- **145 U.S. military suicides*** (145)
- **312 coalition troops killed**** (312)
- **1,123 contractors killed** (accurate updates NA)
- **91,460 to one million Iraqi civilians killed***** (91,094)
- **\$520.9 billion cost of war** (\$518.9 billion)
- **\$148.1 million cost to Eugene taxpayers** (\$147.6 million)

* through May 19 2008; source: icasualties.org; some figures only updated monthly

** estimate; source: icasualties.org

*** highest estimate; source: iraqbodycount.org; based on confirmed media reports; other groups calculate civilian deaths as high as 655,000 to one million.

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Turner says about 90 Oregonians are working on the project, including doctors, activists, insurers and representatives of hospitals and medical groups. The board is also seeking public input.

A presentation and workshop by the Archimedes Movement and Health Care for All-Oregon is planned for 7 pm Wednesday, May 28, at EWEB, 500 E. 4th Ave. And the board plans to meet at 7 pm Wednesday, June 4, at LCC, Building 19.

"I think the board is quite aware of the severity of the problems we face and the tremendous political pressure that will be brought to bear on it and on the Legislature," says Turner. "Our whole community is feeling anxious, victimized and fearful of the impact of our economy of their jobs and health insurance. As a community, we have had to put up with unfairness, uninsurance, inefficiency, delays and poor health results. Our supply of doctors is drying up. We see our money disappearing into a deep dark pit."

ELY BACK IN CONTEST

Eugene community activist and fundraiser Erin Ely is a finalist again in her campaign to raise seed money for an indoor Farmers' Market in Eugene. Ely has entered a national contest at www.ideablob.com and a link to her proposal can be found on the website's home page, where visitors can vote for her idea after free registration.

If Ely wins, she says she will donate the \$10,000 prize to Willamette Farm and Food Coalition to facilitate public discussion of Farmers' Market options and to draft a preliminary presentation of two or three designs as well as a business plan.

Ely entered this competition two months ago with the idea for a permanent Farmers' Market for Eugene. She lost the contest by 20 votes and is trying again this month.

www.oregoncountryfair.org. The OCF, now in its 39th year, runs from 11 am to 7 pm Friday through Sunday, July 11-13, at the OCF site near Veneta. All tickets must be purchased off-site through the TicketsWest system; no tickets will be sold at the fair.

The OCF brings three days filled with handmade crafts, international cuisine, and entertainment, including musicians, poets, hip-hop artists, jugglers, clowns, comics, magicians and live circus performances on several vaudeville stages. More than 350 craft and food booths are planned this year.

The voluntary \$1 "green ticket" contribution that began last year continues this year in order to promote projects that reduce the Fair's carbon footprint. Green tickets will fund carbon sequestering or carbon reducing fair projects that will move the fair closer to its goal of becoming climate neutral.

Advance ticket prices are a few bucks higher this year: \$18 for Friday, \$21 for Saturday and \$18 for Sunday. Tickets for all three days are \$48. Children under 10 are free, and discounts are available for those who are over 65 or alter-abled.

ACTIVIST ALERT

• The **May Brewhaha** political forum is set for 6 pm Wednesday, May 28, at Sam Bond's Garage, 407 Blair in Eugene. The topic is "Spring Cleaning: Dusting off Democracy" and will include discussion of the Citizen Initiative Review Project and Voter Owned Oregon. Presenters will include members of Healthy Democracy and Lane County Commissioner Pete Sorenson. The May forum is at a different location due to a scheduling conflict.



Pete Sorenson

EARLY DEADLINE

EW offices will be closed Monday, May 26, for Memorial Day. Early deadline for reserving display advertising space for our May 29 issue will be 5 pm Thursday, May 22. Questions? Call 484-0519.

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Tickets for the 2008 Oregon Country Fair are now available at TicketsWest outlets and online at www.ticketswest.com and

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Buying Votes

Record developer money in election stirs call for reform

Developers, gravel pit, logging, land speculators and other pro-sprawl, anti-environmental interests spent a record breaking \$230,000 or more on the effort to install Jim Torrey as mayor.

"I would be very supportive of campaign finance reform," said Mayor Kitty Piercy, outspent two-to-one by Torrey.

Torrey said his big development donors also give to charity and provide jobs. "I am very proud of the people that have contributed to my campaign," he said at the May 14, Fox TV mayoral debate.

Many of the development interests backing Torrey also contributed record-breaking amounts to Ward 7 City Council candidate John Crane. By election day Crane had reported \$25,500 in contributions, outspending opponent Andrea Ortiz more than two-to-one.

The big development, gravel pit and pro-sprawl money also backed Lane County Commissioner Bobby Green's re-election campaign. Green's \$105,000 in donations edged out the \$97,000 Rob Handy raised, mostly in smaller contributions.

46 would have amended the constitution to allow limits on campaign contributions. Measure 47 would have limited big contributions.

Big liberal campaign donation groups joined big conservative donors to oppose the measures, splitting reformers into angry camps. While the campaign contribution limits passed, the constitutional amendment did not, throwing the whole scheme in doubt.

Even if the state constitutional amendment had passed, the contribution limits still may have run afoul of the U.S. Constitution. The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled in the past that limits on a wealthy candidate donating to his own campaign or limits to independent expenditures in support or opposition to a candidate are unconstitutional.

Supporters of Measures 46/47 said the high court has more recently loosened its restrictions on campaign finance reforms and could change its mind to allow Oregon's limits.

A leading campaign finance reform group in Oregon, Democracy Reform

'I would be very supportive of campaign finance reform.'

—Mayor Kitty Piercy

Piercy said she is interested in the "voter owned elections" system of public election financing now in place in Portland. Supporters say the Portland model, enacted in 2005, has transformed local elections by limiting the influence of big donors. The voluntary system requires candidates to get a small number of \$5 donations before public financing of the campaign kicks in.

Lane Commissioner Peter Sorenson has proposed a similar system — also in place in Arizona, Maine and four other states — to the Legislature.

Sorenson's plan would:

- Require candidates to gather \$5 contributions and signatures from 0.6 percent of registered voters in a district (about 180 in a House race) to qualify for public financing.

- Provide \$2.05 per district registered voter in public financing, about \$61,500 for a state House candidate.

- Provide matching funding for qualifying candidates with opponents who outspent them using private money.

- Finance itself through a 10 percent surcharge on all civil penalties and criminal fines, by allowing taxpayers to redirect \$5 of their state taxes to the system and by contributions encouraged by a tax credit.

Simply banning big donations could be cheaper than public financing, but that would likely run afoul of the state constitution. In 1997 the Oregon Supreme Court threw out contribution limits approved by voters in 1994, arguing that they violated free speech provisions in the state constitution. The ruling made Oregon one of the few states in the nation with no limits on campaign donations.

In 2006, reformers tried to get around that with a pair of ballot measures. Measure

Oregon (DRO), is taking a middle approach between the two reform strategies. The group "supports Voter-Owned Elections as well as limits on campaign contributions" through another try at a state constitutional amendment. "Ideal campaign finance reform includes both contribution limits and public financing," DRO says.

The Eugene City Council enacted a local campaign finance reform measure five years ago, but it has been largely ineffective. The measure allowed candidates to voluntarily limit contributions to \$7,500 for city council and \$30,000 for mayor. The reward was that the city would run a couple of newspaper ads identifying those who participated in the limit and those who did not. Almost no candidates have used the voluntary system.

Asked if he would support campaign finance reform, Torrey said he supported the little used voluntary system passed while he was mayor. But Torrey faulted even that system for favoring incumbents. "The incumbents have such a tremendous advantage with name familiarity that if you make it an equal number of dollars that each candidate can raise, it is simply unfair."

However, Torrey had eight years as mayor to generate name familiarity compared to Piercy's three years.

Incumbent County Commissioner Green told the Eugene City Club in April that his big timber, real estate, gravel pit and developer money "does not mean that I'm on the take." Green said he does not support campaign finance reform. "Not on my watch. Not while I'm running for re-election."

Green's opponent Handy used video of that statement in a TV ad against Green. The ad caused "quite a stir" among voters, Handy said.

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Myths and Facts

Conference examines Latino immigration

Immigration rights advocates, scholars and community leaders will gather May 22-23 for a conference at the UO Law School on "Gender, Families, and Latino Immigration in Oregon."

The conference, sponsored by the Center for Study of Women in Society and other campus groups, will bring together people from Eugene to Mexico and was put together in consultation with Latino communities throughout the state. The conference is bilingual and will provide English-to-Spanish and Spanish-to-English interpreters. It will also focus on the issues of speakers of indigenous languages.

Panel topics will range from lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer issues in immigrant communities to health care and labor.

The conference wraps up with a keynote speech on Friday evening on gender and family issues among immigrant populations in Oregon and California, featuring Patricia Zavella (University of California, Santa Cruz) and Eugene's Guadalupe Quinn (CAUSA).

EW spoke with Odilia Romero of the *Frente Indígena de Organizaciones Binacionales* (Indigenous Front of Binational Organizations) about her upcoming talk at the conference and experiences with immigrants' rights issues. Romero will be part of the panel on "Myths and Facts about Immigration: Gender, Youth and Family Perspectives" that kicks off the conference at 7 pm on Thursday.

How did you become involved in immigrant issues?

I got into this work because I am myself a migrant. I came to the U.S. when I was 11 from the state of Oaxaca, from the highlands, from the Zapotec community. It's based from my personal experiences as an indigenous woman. When I first came in the early '80s, there was no organization

that would represent us or would be able to translate [for us]. So based on this family experience, I joined the *Frente* when I found out it existed about six years ago.



'I just think they have to think about people as human beings, not to think too much about the border; think about displaced communities, migrants, but to think of them as human beings, and not to support policies that criminalize immigrant workers.'

- Odilia Romero

What sort of work does the Frente do?

We're a human rights organization. We do some political work, help people to politically participate in the U.S. who have become U.S. citizens, but we also work on human rights violations back in their home states. We work on the causes of migration like NAFTA and other policies that force us to migrate to the United States. We also provide interpreting services in indigenous languages. We have translators in Zapotec, Trique, Mixteco and Purepecha. We provide different services to indigenous communities throughout the state of California from prenatal care to leadership development and

how to protect yourself from pesticides.

You will be speaking about myths and facts about immigration. Can you talk a little about what you will be discussing?

I'm going to share my experience of what I learned from my grandparents before I first came to the U.S. I was left home by my parents when they had migrated to the U.S. in the late '70s, and every time I would ask for them, my grandparents would tell me, "Oh they went to go make a lot of money with the *gringos*,"— we used to say the *gringos*, the white people — "and they

are going to send you a lot of money, and they are soon going to come back, you're going to have a house." [My grandma was] like, "They are going to pick you up and you're going to go to school and live nice, like the *gringos*. You're going to learn their language."

But I don't think my grandma had the notion that it was a completely different language, and there was no way we were going to communicate. And when I came, I didn't come to a nice house, but I came to what's called the Pico-Union area in Los Angeles, which is a mostly migrant community in terrible conditions. It's another way of poverty, different from the one I had at home. It was in an apartment building where there were eight of us living [in an apartment]; there was no playground, no trees, no greenery. She never said it was going to be such a small apartment, or that no one would speak my language when I came here.

Any thoughts on the ways immigration issues differ in a Oregon versus a place like California that has a longer history dealing with the issue?

I don't know because there's a lot of white community support for legalization and immigrant rights just like there are a lot of Latinos against their own rights, and their brothers' and sisters' rights, so it's hard to generalize the difference between Oregon and California because it varies.

What would you tell anyone who may not be able to attend the conference?

I just think they have to think about people as human beings, not to think too much about the border; think about displaced communities, migrants, but to think of them as human beings, and not to support policies that criminalize immigrant workers. **EW**

The conference will be held in the Knight Law Center, 1515 Agate St. For more information, contact csws@uoregon.edu or call 346-5015. The event is free and open to the public. The program is available in English at csws.uoregon.edu/Immigration/program.htm or in Spanish at csws.uoregon.edu/Immigration/program_Spanish.htm

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BACK TO IRAQ?

A Eugene soldier fights killing

★ ★ ★ BY CAMILLA MORTENSEN ★ ★ ★

PFC James Burmeister enlisted in the military because he thought he would be doing “humanitarian work” in Iraq. But he was manning a machine gun, using ammunition so large his targets — humans — would “literally explode,” the day in Baghdad that his Humvee was hit by a roadside bomb. He was knocked unconscious, and bits of shrapnel were embedded in his face.

Burmeister went AWOL (absent without leave) and fled to Canada just months after the incident, no longer able to deal with the aftereffects of the bomb and his experiences allegedly setting up “small kill teams” and baiting Iraqis into approaching fake U.S. military devices like cameras, luring them in to be shot by snipers.

Now the 23-year-old soldier from Eugene waits at Fort Knox, Ky., to discover whether the Army will prosecute him, release him without access to medical care for his injuries or try yet again to send him back to a war he doesn’t want to fight. His father fears the Army wants to keep Burmeister quiet about the “bait-and-kill” teams that he alleges have been used to kill Iraqi civilians. While James Burmeister awaits the Army’s decision, his father is fighting to bring him home.

A soldier who deserts faces court martial, imprisonment and less-than-honorable discharge as a consequence. Many soldiers who have gone AWOL have chosen to return to Iraq rather than face a long stint in a military prison. Others, like Burmeister, say they are simply not psychologically able to return to a war zone.

If he is convicted of desertion and given a dishonorable discharge, Burmeister faces time in prison. And the soldier, who says he suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and a brain injury as a result of the roadside bomb, fears he might not have access to veterans’ medical benefits.

The Hippie from Oregon

Burmeister’s father Eric, who works in food service at LCC, says his son James is “just a typical Eugene kid,” so typical that other soldiers in his unit called him the “hippie from Oregon.”

Born in Portland and raised in Eugene, the son of a white father and an African-American mother, James Burmeister found himself working dead-end jobs after graduating from high school. While on a trip to Germany to visit an old friend who had enlisted in the military, Burmeister began to consider the Army as a possible career. “My friend described the Iraq war as a humanitarian effort, and I believed him,” Burmeister writes in a deposition to Canadian authorities while seeking asylum.

In June of 2005 he approached a recruiter and he writes he was again told

was only learning how to raid houses and secure buildings and not how to distribute food or develop “civilian infrastructure.” He says he approached his commander and asked to become a conscientious objector, but he says the request was ignored.

Burmeister was sent to Iraq in September of 2006 as part of Unit 118 First Infantry Division and immediately deployed in Baghdad. His main duty was as a gunner. He manned the machine guns that sit on top of the Humvees used on patrol. “I was largely asked to provide protection for other soldiers” he writes of his duty.

But soon, he says, he realized his duties were less about protecting others and more about luring Iraqis to their deaths: “In many cases our platoon was required to engage in exercises that were designed to attract fire from insurgents.” Army gunners would then return fire with 762 millimeter rounds that would “literally tear the limbs and appendages off the intended targets” or .50 caliber explosive rounds that when used against “human targets” would cause them to “literally explode or evaporate.”

“Our unit’s job seemed to be more about targeting a largely innocent civilian population or deliberately attracting confrontation with insurgents,” he writes.

Small Kill Teams

Burmeister was also disturbed by the “small kill teams” for which he was asked to provide cover. On Sept. 24, 2007, the *Washington Post* investigated the story of the classified program of using “bait and kill” tactics in which sniper teams would scatter “bait” such as ammunition and detonation cords to attract Iraqi insurgents who would then be shot by snipers.

But Burmeister, who had deserted from the Army five months before the story broke, had been telling that story to the media for months.

In a July 2007 article in *The Oregonian*, Burmeister said he had participated in a team that placed fake cameras on poles and labeled them U.S. property to give the team the right to shoot anyone who tried to move or take the equipment.

Burmeister writes in his deposition, “These citizens were almost always unarmed. In some cases the Iraqi victims looked to me like they were children,

‘I knew for sure he was going to die over there.’

— Eric Burmeister, father

“about the humanitarian efforts that the military undertook on behalf of the Iraqi people.” He enlisted and was stationed in Germany, where he married a woman named Angelique, whom he had met on the earlier trip.

His father was against Burmeister’s choice to join the military, “I’m an old Don Quixote tilting at windmills from way back,” Eric Burmeister says. “But he bought the recruiter’s line. He couldn’t get a good job. I had to let him go.”

After a year of training in Germany, James Burmeister began to question why he

perhaps teenagers.”

He told the same story to Canada’s CBC news in June 2007, and allegedly to PBS’s NOW, but that statement was not used in the portions of his interview used on air.

Ray Parrish, a counselor for Vietnam Veterans Against the War (VVAW) says that it’s not uncommon for a soldier’s story of war atrocities to go uninvestigated. “It’s part of the Winter Soldier phenomenon,” says Parrish, referring to the January 1971 testimony of veterans exposing war crimes and atrocities during the Vietnam War. In March 2008, Iraq Veterans Against the

War organized a similar gathering in which veterans and Iraqi and Afghan civilians gave testimony about their experiences.

"When people hear about that [bait and kill teams] they say 'that would never happen,'" says Parrish. "The GIs are simply not believed."

PTSD

Burmeister was involved in firefights only a month after arriving in Iraq. In his deposition he tells of the first time he killed an Iraqi. "I tried to fire warning shots," he writes, "but the sergeant in my Humvee began yelling at me to shoot to kill." One of the insurgents he shot died, and the other was wounded. In the same fight he says that he remembers watching another gunner use .50 caliber rounds against two unarmed civilians, "which literally made them explode."

Parrish says such experiences are what are contributing to the PTSD he sees in the troops. "The most severe part of PTSD has to do with a guilty conscience," he says. "They are repeatedly put in the position of doing things that they know in their gut are wrong."

Soldiers like Burmeister "are at a loss as to what they can do to stop their personal slide into hell," says Parrish, who fought in Vietnam and has been counseling veterans since 1976.

Burmeister's convoy was hit by roadside bombs on three different occasions, he writes. On the third he was briefly knocked unconscious, had ringing in his ears and got two pieces of shrapnel buried in his

face. But when the platoon leader asked if everyone was OK, "I responded that I was OK. I believe I was in shock at this time."

When he later reported the injury to his sergeant, he writes, he was told it was too late to report, and he would be declared healthy. He was ordered back to his Humvee.

It was after this that Burmeister began to have nightmares and feel faint. After passing out in his room, he was sent to Germany for rest, where it was discovered he was suffering from chronic high blood pressure. He was also diagnosed with PTSD and a possible traumatic brain injury, and he was given sleeping pills and antidepressants, he writes. By May of 2007 he was told to return to Baghdad despite his PTSD.

"Mental injury is just so hard to

document," says Parrish. "People who are literally unfit for deployment get deployed anyway. Doesn't matter if it's a broken pelvis and you're in a body cast because there is a desk for you to sit at in Iraq."

Eric Burmeister agrees. "They need the bodies."

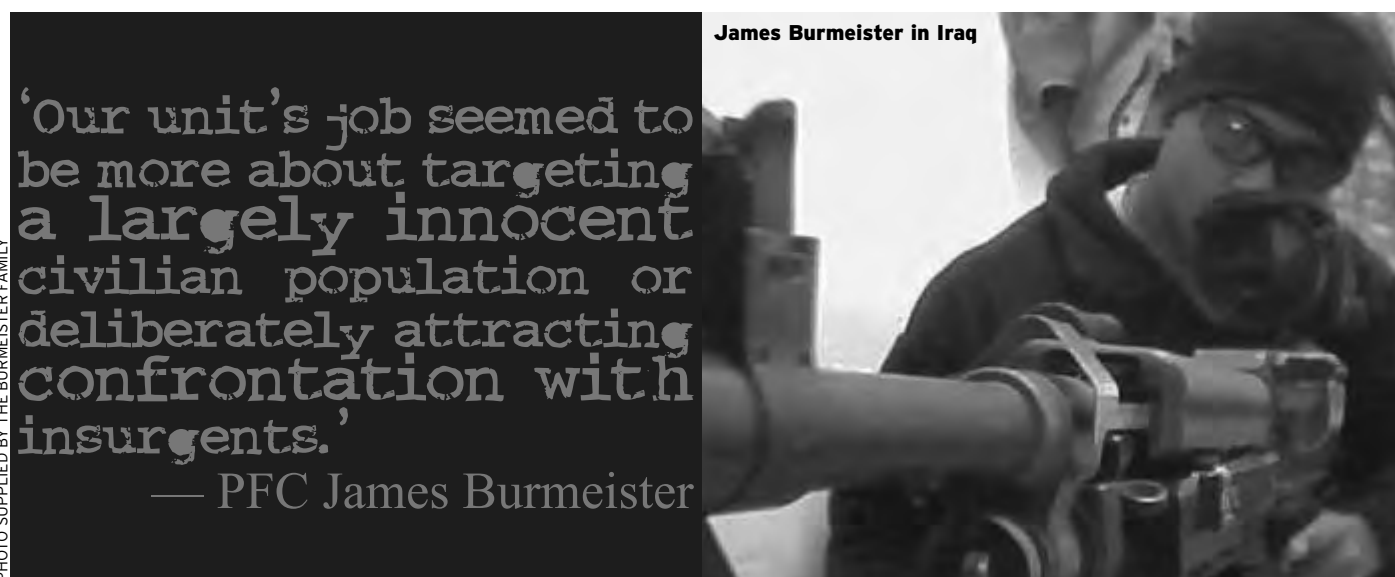
AWOL

As of May 20, 4,079 American soldiers had died in "Operation Enduring Freedom," the official title of the U.S. invasion of Iraq. Estimates of Iraqi civilian casualties range to over 90,000, according to Iraqbodycount.org (*EW* updates the numbers in our paper each week). More than 100 of the soldiers who have died are from Oregon, according to statistics kept by Gov. Ted Kulongoski's office. Burmeister's father, Eric, chokes up

when he talks about his fears that his son would be one of those statistics, "I knew for sure he was going to die over there," he says.

But Burmeister is still a statistic: He is one of 4,968 Army soldiers who deserted in fiscal year 2007, according to Army figures. After a soldier has been AWOL for 30 days, he or she is considered a deserter. Like Suzanne Swift, a soldier from Eugene who was "command raped" in Iraq, and Ehren Watada, an officer who refused to deploy to Iraq, Burmeister is fighting the military to allow him to leave the war.

Army desertion rates have risen 80 percent since the 2003 invasion of Iraq, an Associated Press investigation said last November. It used to be that most deserters listed dissatisfaction with Army life or family troubles as their reason for



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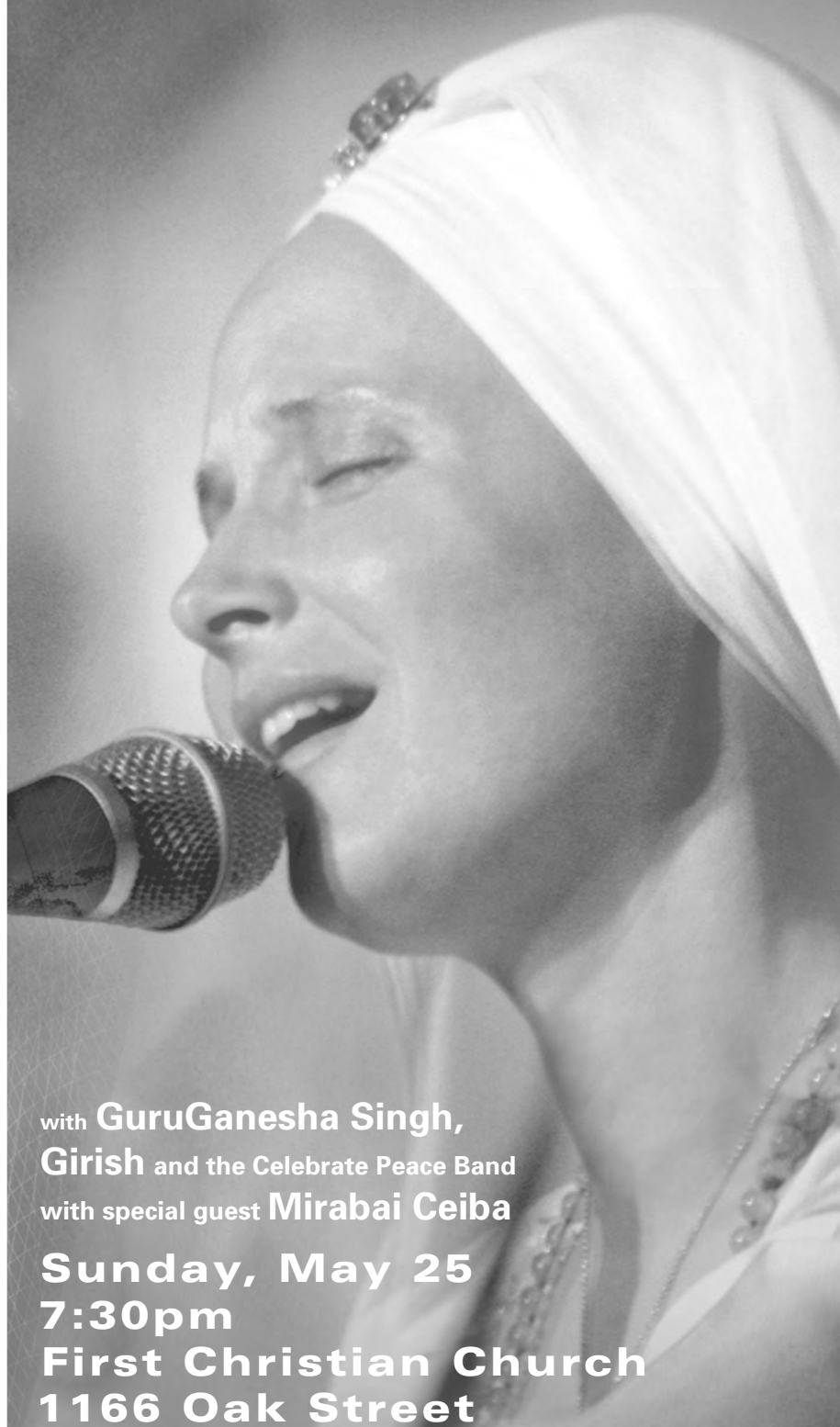
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going AWOL, but now PTSD has become a reason to leave the military for soldiers like James Burmeister.

Burmeister went AWOL in May 2007, fleeing from Germany to Canada in hopes of getting refugee status. He remained there for almost a year with his pregnant wife and son, who have since gone back to Germany. But in November 2007 the Canadian Supreme Court refused to hear the case of two American deserters, opening the way for the deportation of American AWOL troops. On March 4 of this year, homesick and struggling with PTSD, James Burmeister turned himself in to the Army.

Bring Him Home

Burmeister is now at Fort Knox waiting for the military to decide what to do with him. One of his original cellmates, who had also gone AWOL, has already been sent back to Iraq.

But Parrish of the VVAW says drug prescriptions for troubled soldiers are not uncommon. "They are given a pill to go to sleep, speed to wake them up." Other troops and veterans, he says, are self-medicating with alcohol to try to sleep. The inability to sleep, he says, is common to veterans with PTSD.

Politicians don't want to talk about PTSD, says Parrish, or about suicide. "There's never been a situation where just as many veterans are committing suicide as are dying [in combat] in Iraq and Afghanistan," he says. "The numbers have hit 4,000," he alleges.

All Eric and Helen Burmeister want is for their son to come home. The Burmeisters asked Congressman Peter DeFazio's office to launch a congressional inquiry into James Burmeister's case, but so far they have heard nothing from the military. They hope their son will simply be discharged "in lieu of court martial."

'When people hear about that [bait and kill teams] they say "that would never happen." The GIs are simply not believed.'

— Ray Parrish,
Vietnam Veterans Against the War

The Army has prescribed what Eric Burmeister calls a "drug-induced lobotomy" for his son. According to an emailed evaluation from Jon Bjornson, a retired psychiatrist and former major in the Army Medical Corps consulted by the VVAW, the drugs prescribed for James Burmeister are not for PTSD but for "bipolar disorder, mixed, type 1."

The combination of the prescribed medications, which include Desyrel, "a sedating antidepressant," as well as Seroquel, Celexa and a drug for hypertension, "will restrict an individual from driving, working with machinery, performing any activities requiring hand-eye coordination," writes Bjornson.

"Any physician clearing this individual taking the pharmaceutical regimen above, for military duty, much less combat, should be liable for malpractice," says the email.

Burmeister still faces possible redeployment to Iraq. If court martialled and given a less-than-honorable discharge, Burmeister will not be able to access to medical care for his injuries unless the Veterans Administration grants him an exception.

For now, Burmeister is "unable to heal," says his father. His wife has returned to Germany, and Burmeister has not seen his newborn child. And because Fort Knox is an armor training school with soldiers firing from tanks day and night, he can hear the sounds of gunfire from his room as he awaits his fate, worsening his PTSD, says his father.

It's not just about his own son, says Eric Burmeister. It's about all of the young soldiers in Iraq. "I can never be quiet until they all come home. It seems like they are all my children now." **EW**

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WHAT'S happening

In the annals of Music To Do Yoga To, Sikh chant songstress **Snatum Kaur** and her kirtan style of singing surely leads one's muscles to stretch just a bit more than they normally would. Similarly, hearing Kaur sing in concert stretches the heart and mind just a bit more than normally possible, allowing ample spiritual growth and giving a nice cardio workout to the soul. Kaur, whose father was a manager for the Grateful Dead (oh, so many things can be said of this), is one of the "most popular New Age artists of our time," according to her especially verbose press packet. But her soothing voice warrants such praise, and her concert at First Christian Church is a homecoming of sorts, as Kaur made her home in Eugene until a recent move to New Mexico. After 9/11, Kaur helped establish Eugene's monthly Interfaith Prayer Service, where all faiths come together to pray for peace. She is also partly responsible for those crazy mixtures of corn flakes, dried fruit, ginger, granola clusters and other goodies found in Golden Temple's Peace Cereal because she worked at the Eugene production facility as a food technologist (she has a BA in biochemistry, natch) when it opened in 1997. Can we get some hums and some yums, please? See Sunday Calendar.

STOMP really belongs in Eugene. The physical theater/dance troupe plays tribal percussion music on recycled objects, mostly culled from scrapyards and backyards. Their set is a series of pipes and plucky comedy, tap dances and torn tapestries. Hmm, maybe this show would be better suited for performance at BRING Recycling ... but we suppose we'll settle for The Great Big Trash Can at the Hult Center ... then again, the Hult makes *perfect* sense! See Tuesday and Wednesday Calendar.



It's time once again to check in with **Michael Franti & Spearhead**. This time a year ago the Frantically clad assembled at the Cuthbert for a similar show and we wrote about the show briefly as Franti had no new album out to warrant a full writeup. Franti and Co. still don't have a new album, but they have one on the way. *All Rebel Rockers*, which Franti calls his "tuffest yet," is in post-production while the band shoots videos for the songs in Jamaica. Meanwhile, Mr. Franti has dabbled in the literary arts, penning the words to the children's book *What I Be*, which will no doubt seriously fuck up your kids' grammar but still leave them with the gumption to embody "the best characteristics of nature." Squeal! See Saturday Calendar.



Native American singer Pura Fe' Crescioni performs at a benefit concert at the McDonald Theatre Thursday, May 29

22 THURSDAY

Sunrise 5:40am; Sunset 8:39pm
Av High 68; Av Low 44
SnarkCast: TEPID

COMEDY Fred Van Vactor, 9pm, Wandering Goat. FREE.

FILM *Dersu Uzala*, 6:30pm, Mills Int'l Center, EMU, UO. FREE.

The Archaeology Channel International Film and Video Festival, 6:20pm today, tomorrow & 10:50am May 24 & 2:14pm May 25, Hult Center. \$5-\$30.

GATHERINGS Black Arts Festival, music, arts & crafts, 11:30am-4:30pm, EMU Amphitheater, UO. FREE.

Conference on Gender, Families, and Latino Immigration in Oregon, 7pm today and 9am tomorrow, 175 Knight Law Center, UO. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES Slim Goodbody's Educational Show, 10am, McDonald Theatre. \$6.50.

Dr. Donny George speaks about cultural preservation, 10am-noon, Eugene Public Library. 682-5450. FREE.

"Ozu, Directionality, and Quandaries in Cross-cultural Aesthetics," Ben Singer, 4pm, 111 Lillis Hall, UO. FREE.

"RTI/PBIS School Wide Systems," 10am, Clinical Service Building, Rm. 201, 910 E. 18th Ave. RSVP. 791-4415. FREE.

"The Story Behind American Words & Expressions," author Rosemarie Ostler, 1:30pm, Willamalane Adult Activity Center. RSVP. 736-4444. FREE.

LITERARY ARTS Richard Wirick reads from *One Hundred Siberian Postcards*, 7pm, Knight Library Browsing Room, UO. FREE.

Reflective Readers book group: *Peace Like A River* by Leif Enger, 7pm, Barnes & Noble. FREE.

MUSIC Mario Matteoli, Concrete Loveseat, 9pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$5.

University Singers & Chamber Choir, 8pm, Beall Hall, UO. \$7, \$5 stu.

Youth Symphony, 7:30pm performance & 6:00pm Arts Umbrella Silent Auction, South Eugene High School. \$7, \$5 sr., \$3 stu., \$15 fam. RSVP. 484-0473.

ON THE AIR "New Dimensions" presents "Healing With Horses" w/ Patricia Broersma, 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

"The Jefferson Exchange" discusses Oregon Caves National Monument w/Craig Ackerman, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Whitewater Kayak Rodeo, 5:30pm-8:30pm, Knickerbocker Footbridge, Alton Baker Park. www.worldkayak.com FREE.

THEATER *Or Not To Be*, 8pm today, May 23-24, 29-31 & 2pm June 1, Lord Leebrick Theatre, 540 Charnelton. www.lordleebrick.com or 465-1506. NOTE: *Contains brief male nudity*. \$10-\$18.

Miss Witherspoon, 7:30pm today and May 23-24, South Eugene High School Little Theater. 687-3521. \$8, \$5 stu., sr.

Lotus Lessons, 8pm today, May 23-24 & May 29-31, Arena Theatre, 104 Villard Hall, UO. 346-4363. \$5, \$4 stu.

23 FRIDAY

Sunrise 5:39am; Sunset 8:40pm
Av High 68; Av Low 44
SnarkCast: TIGRESS

ARTS/VISUAL Opening Reception feat. artist Jay Backstrand, 3:30pm talk & 5:30pm reception, Jacobs Gallery. FREE.

DANCE The Works Student Dance Concert, 8pm today & tomorrow, Performance Hall, LCC. 463-5202. \$5-\$8.

FILM The Archaeology Channel International Film and Video Festival continues. See Thursday, May 22.

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting: Seasonals paired w/artisan cheeses, 5pm-7pm, The Broadway. FREE.

GATHERINGS EKC & McKenzie Cascade Dog Fanciers Dog Agility Trials, 8am today, tomorrow & May 25-26, Livestock Arena, Lane County Fairgrounds. 945-2789. FREE.

Conference on Gender, Families, and Latino Immigration in Oregon, 8:30am-8pm, 175 Knight Law Center, UO. 346-5015. FREE.

Dream Keepers' Root Festival, w/camping, vendors, drumming, native games, storytelling, all day today, tomorrow & May 25, behind the Rodeo Grounds on Hwy 99 South, Cottage Grove. 942-2593.

LECTURES "Conference on Gender, Families, and Latino Immigration in Oregon," continues. See Thursday, May 22.

"Symposium on Heritage Film," w/Dr. Richard Pettigrew, 1pm, Eugene Public Library. FREE.

"Native American Storytelling," w/Esther Stutzman, 3pm, Eugene Public Library. FREE.

City Club Friday Forum: "The Eyes of Youth: Race Relations in Our Schools," w/4J administrator Johnny Lake & students from Eugene high schools, 11:50am, Downtown Athletic Club. FREE.

"Social Suffering Through Cultural Complexes," w/Sam Kimbles, Ph.D., 7:30pm, Sacred Heart Medical Center Auditorium. \$8, \$5 members.

MUSIC David Jacobs-Strain, 9pm, Sam Bond's. 21+ \$8.

Green Garter Band, 8pm, Beall Hall, UO. \$7, \$5 stu.

Kidz Rock Booster Shot, 6pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$6, FREE (6 & under).

Greenlander, Volifonix, Cellar Door, The Campaign, The Black Majesty, 8pm, WOW Hall. \$8 adv., \$10 door.

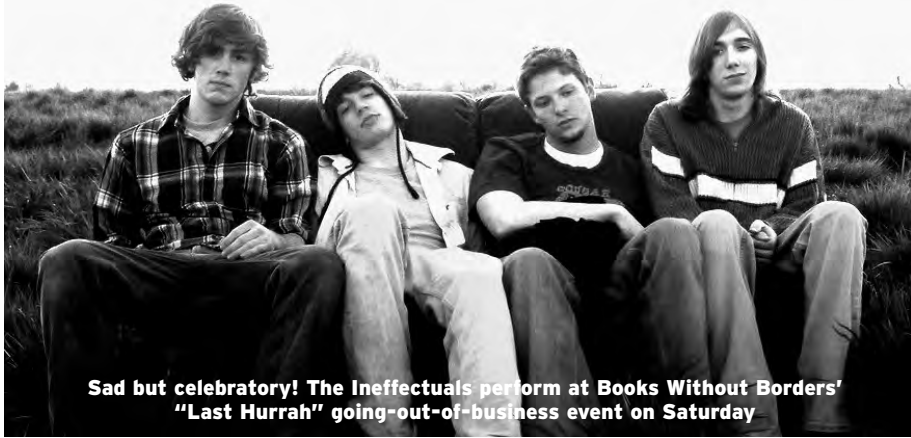
Salt Lick, 8pm, Wandering Goat. FREE.

Parallel Minds, 8pm, World Flavors. FREE.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses OnTrack treatment facility & the battle against drugs w/Rita Sullivan, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

SPIRITUAL Principles of Spiritual Living, discussion & refreshments, 7pm-9pm, Inside Edge Program, SGC, 390 Vernal St. www.Edge-Eugene.org \$5-\$8.

THEATER *Or Not To Be* continues. See Thursday, May 22.



Sad but celebratory! The Ineffectuals perform at Books Without Borders' "Last Hurrah" going-out-of-business event on Saturday

Lotus Lessons continues. See Thursday, May 22.

Miss Witherspoon continues. See Thursday, May 22.

VOLUNTEER Paint play equipment & spread mulch, 1pm-4pm, Gamebird Park, 1500 Mallard Ave, Springfield.

24 SATURDAY

Sunrise 5:38am; Sunset 8:41pm
Av High 68; Av Low 44
SnarkCast: FUNKY

ARTS/VISUAL Lorax screen-printing workshop/artshow, 5pm-9pm, Lorax Manner, 1648 Alder St. FREE.

BENEFIT Tibetan Celebration, w/wisdom and insights from various speakers, feat. food, music, raffle & crafts, benefit for Bhumsok, 4:30pm, Campbell Center, 155 High St. \$10-\$20 sug. don.

DANCE The Works Student Dance Concert continues. See Friday.

FARMERS' MARKET Farmers' Market, local produce, plants, meats, flowers, food, 9am-4pm, 8th Ave. & Oak St. FREE.

FILM The Archaeology Channel International Film and Video Festival continues. See Thursday, May 22.

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting & baked goods, 11am-6pm today, tomorrow & May 26, King Estate MarketPlace. FREE.

GARDENING Landscape Design For Your Home, bring photo of landscape area, 9am-5pm today at Eugene Gray's Garden Center & 10am-4pm tomorrow at Springfield Gray's Garden Center. RSVP. FREE.

GATHERINGS Saturday Market, 10am-5pm, with entertainment from Eric Nicholson, 10am; Mary Ferris, 11am; Edson Oliveira, noon; Olem Alves Jazz Duo, 1pm; Home Source Jazz Band, 2pm; The Usual Suspects, 3:30pm, Park Blocks, 8th & Oak. www.eugenesaturdaymarket.org FREE.

Ancestry & Heritage Quest computer class, 10am-noon, Eugene Public Library. RSVP. 682-5450. FREE.

Eugene Masonic Cemetery Memorial Day Events, grounds open to the public w/tours & exhibits; taps on Monday & ribbon cutting ceremony on Sunday, 10am-4pm today, tomorrow & May 26, East 25th Ave. & University St. 485-6869. FREE.

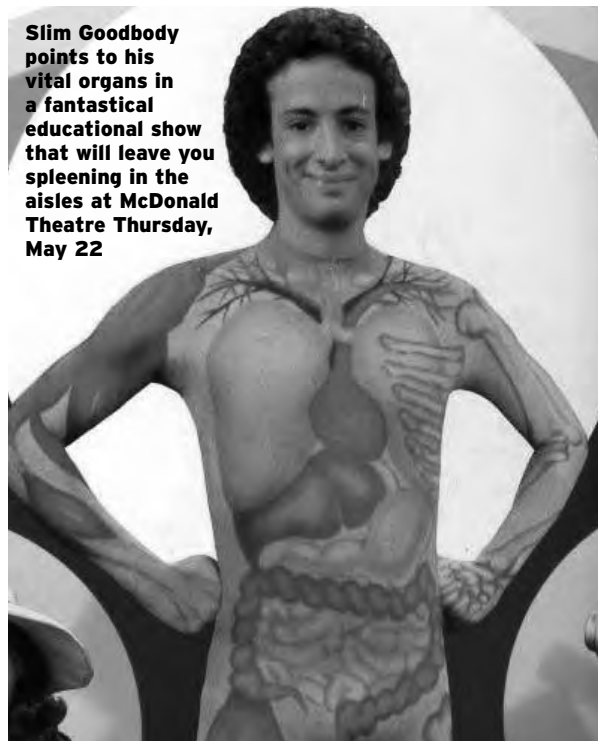
EKC & McKenzie Cascade Dog Fanciers continues. See Friday.

The Dreamkeepers' Root Festival continues. See Friday.

Conscious Connections, singles encouraged, 7pm-9:30pm, Tamarack Wellness Center. www.heartofnow.org \$10.

Books Without Borders Last Hurrah, feat. local authors, artwork, prize drawings & music by The Ineffectuals, bring children's books to donate, 6pm-8pm, 199 W. 8th Ave. \$5.

LECTURE Community Conversation on Immigration, w/Rural Organizing Project, 6:30pm, United Methodist Church, Junction City. FREE.



Slim Goodbody points to his vital organs in a fantastical educational show that will leave you spleening in the aisles at McDonald Theatre Thursday, May 22

MUSIC Jackstraw, 9:30pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$6.

Bajuana Tea, 7pm, WineStyles. FREE.

Michael Franti & Spearhead, The Coup, 5pm, Cuthbert Amphitheater. \$33 adv., \$38 door.

Medium Troy, The Alliance Crew, Girl Meets Gravity, Knox & Efekt, The Kid Espi, Bohemian Dub Hop, 8:30pm, WOW Hall. FREE.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Obsidian trips: Baldy, hike, 3 miles; Rooster Rock, hike, 6.6 miles. See YMCA board for details/sign-up.

GEARs rides: Dale Kuni, 44 miles; Pleasant Hill Short, 32 miles, 9am, Alton Baker Park. www.eugenegears.org

SOCIAL DANCE Emerald City Regency Dance, elegant dancing & refreshments; costume optional, 6pm-9pm, Maude Kerns Art Center. www.OregonRegencySociety.com \$20, \$10 child (14 & under).

THEATER *Or Not To Be* continues. See Thursday, May 22.

Lotus Lessons continues. See Thursday, May 22.

Miss Witherspoon continues. See Thursday, May 22.

25 SUNDAY

Sunrise 5:38am; Sunset 8:42pm
Av High 69; Av Low 44
SnarkCast: KARMAGEDDON

FILM *Little Brother*, *BIG Pharma*, documentary film premiere, 1pm, Bijou Theatre. \$5 or don.

Centrifugal Cinema, 7pm, Wandering Goat. FREE.

The Archaeology Channel International Film and Video Festival continues. See Thursday, May 22.

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting & baked goods continues. See Saturday.

GARDENING Landscape Design For Your Home continues. See Saturday.

GATHERINGS EKC & McKenzie Cascade Dog Fanciers continues. See Friday.

Eugene Masonic Cemetery Memorial Day Events continues. See Saturday.

BRING Fest, feat. music, craft vendors, bake sale, yard sale & demos, 11am-3pm, BRING, 4446 Franklin. 746-3023. FREE.

Dream Keepers' Root Festival continues. See Friday.

MUSIC Mare Wakefield, Ter-ra, 8:30pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$8.

Snatam Kaur w/guest Mirabai Ceiba, 7:30pm, First Christian Church, 1166 Oak St. 342-8348. \$20 adv., \$25 door.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Obsidian trips: Fernridge, bird/bike, 20 miles. See YMCA board for details/sign-up.

GEARs rides: Brownsville via Marcola/Brush Creek Rd., 80 miles; Mohawk Store, 32 miles, 9am, Alton Baker Park. www.eugenegears.org

Duck Bill Thrill Triathlon, watch or participate, 8am, Fall Creek Reservoir, Winberry Park. 465-1800. FREE.

SPIRITUAL Sunday Night BS, games & pizza for young adults, 6pm, Fairfield Baptist Church, 3991 Elmira Rd. FREE.

THEATER Oddity presents a puppet show for adults, feat. graphic language, adult content, violence, murder and a drinking game, 9pm, Samurai Duck. 21+. Don.

26 MONDAY

Sunrise 5:37am; Sunset 8:43pm
Av High 69; Av Low 44
SnarkCast: MANIC

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting & baked goods continues. See Saturday.

GATHERINGS EKC & McKenzie Cascade Dog Fanciers continues. See Friday.

Eugene Masonic Cemetery Memorial Day Events continues. See Saturday.

MUSIC No Bunny, So Cow, 8pm, Wandering Goat. FREE.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses California politics w/Sherry Bebitch-Jeffe, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Obsidian trips: Masonic Cemetery, 4 miles. See YMCA board for details/sign-up.

GEARs rides: Wolf Creek via Twin Oaks Elementary, 50 miles, 9am, Alton Baker Park. www.eugenegears.org

Eugene Running Event: Ridgeline Ramble, relay, 8am, Ridgeline Trail. 484-9883.

27

TUESDAY

Sunrise 5:36am; Sunset 8:44pm
Av High 69; Av Low 44
SnarkCast: POISED

FARMERS' MARKET Farmers' Market, local produce, plants, meats, flowers, food, 10am-3pm, 8th Ave. & Oak St. FREE.

GATHERINGS LCC Board of Education Community Conversation, 5:30pm-7:30pm, Center for Meeting & Learning, bldg 19, room 220, LCC. FREE.

Our Ocean Coalition gathering, 6:30pm, Cozmic Pizza. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES Hershey's Track & Field Games, 5pm-7:30pm today at North Eugene High School & May 29 at South Eugene High School. Ages 9-14. 682-5312. FREE.

LECTURE "Safety In Our Food Supply," w/Dr. Sunny Kierstyn, 12:30pm-2pm, Willamalane Adult

Jamie Lidell plays PDX's Berbaty's Pan Tuesday. See On the Road listings



Members of the Oregon Mozart Players present "Chamber Music & Chocolate" at the United Lutheran Church Tuesday

Activity Center, Springfield. 736-4444. FREE.

MUSIC Oregon Mozart Players presents "Chamber Music & Chocolate," feat. the violin, viola, piano & clarinet, 7:30pm, United Lutheran Church. 682-5000. \$16, \$12 stu. & sr.

LCC Jazz program presents "An Evening of Jazz," 7:30pm, LCC. 463-5202. \$8, \$6 stu.

ON THE AIR "Alternative Radio" presents Steve Salaita lecture, "Anti-Arab Racism," 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

"The Jefferson Exchange" discusses The Donner Party's story w/author Ethan Rarick, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

THEATER *Stomp*, 7:30pm today & tomorrow, Hult Center. 683-4368. www.hultcenter.org

28

WEDNESDAY

Sunrise 5:35am; Sunset 8:45pm
Av High 69; Av Low 44
SnarkCast: MEDITATE

FILM Heckler's Movie Night: *Earthquake*, 7pm, Wandering Goat. FREE.

Darfur Now!, 8pm, Cozmic Pizza. FREE.

Found Objects, 2:30pm, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, UO. FREE w/admission.

GATHERINGS Lane Bus Project and *Eugene Weekly* present Brewhaha: A Monthly Political Slam: "Spring Cleaning: Dusting off Democracy," w/Healthy Democracy Oregon presenting the Citizen Initiative Review Project and Pete Sorenson presenting Voter Owned Oregon, 6pm-8pm, Sam Bond's. All ages. FREE.

Churchill Area Neighbors panel discussion: "Youth Mental Health," 7pm-8:30pm, Churchill Estates, 1919 Bailey Hill Rd. FREE.

Preparation for June 4 Health Fund Board Meeting, workshop w/Charlotte Maloney, 7pm-8:30pm, EWEB. 334-1760.

LECTURES The Residential Academy presents a Community Conversations panel: "A Day at the Races: Track Town USA-Eugene, Hayward Field and the Rise of American Running Culture," 7:30pm, Hayward Field West Grandstand, Bowerman Building. FREE.

"Notes from a Gambling Nation: Why China Is Not Going to Be the World's Next Superpower," w/*Washington Post* editor John Pomfret, 5pm, 282 Lillis Hall, UO. FREE.

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SAT 5/24 9pm Reggae The T-Club

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calendar

LITERARY ARTS Eugene Recreation Senior Program: "Love to Read" book club, 10am-11:30am, Campbell Community Center. 682-5318.

MUSIC Chamber Music on Campus, 6pm, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, UO. FREE.

Eugene Contemporary Chamber Ensemble, 8pm, Collier House, UO. FREE.

Campus Band & Campus Orchestra, 8pm, Beall Hall, UO. FREE.

The Whiskey Spots, Valerie Lopez, Dan Miles, 9pm, Sam Bond's. 21+ \$3-\$5.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses online journalism ethics w/UO professor Tom Bivins, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION GEARS rides: Goshen, 20 miles, 6pm, Alton Baker Park. www.eugenegears.org

Obsidian trips: Larison Creek, hike, 6 miles. See YMCA board for details/sign-up.

Wetland Events, 9am-10am explore spring happenings walk & 7pm-9pm guided walk by botanist Cheshire Mayrsohn, West Eugene Wetlands Office, 751 S. Danebo Ave. RSVP. 683-6494. FREE.

THEATER *Stomp* continues. See Tuesday.



British electro-rock group Ladytron plays PDX's Wonder Ballroom Sunday. See On the Road listings

29
THURSDAY

Sunrise 5:35am; Sunset 8:46pm

Av High 69; Av Low 44

SnarkCast: WOUND-UP

BENEFIT LCC Longhouse Benefit Concert feat. Native American singer Pura Fe' Crescioni, 6pm silent auction & reception and 8pm concert, McDonald Theatre. \$20 adv., \$25 door.

DANCE Traduza Dance Company presents *All Angles*, 7pm today, tomorrow & May 31; 2pm & 7pm June 1, Fenario Gallery. www.traduzadance.com \$15, \$10 stu.; \$25 May 31 w/after-show reception.

FILM Spring Film Series: *The Road*, 6:30pm, Mills International Center, EMU. FREE.

GATHERINGS Eugene Astronomical Society: "Black Holes," 7pm, EWEB Community Room. 688-7330. FREE.

YMCA Active Older Adults Day, nutritional & garden talks, chair massages, Nintendo Wii bowling, 8am-1:30pm, YMCA. 686-9622.

KIDS/FAMILIES Book Buddies Book Group: *Judy Moody* by Megan McDonald, grades 2-3, 4pm-5pm, Eugene Public Library. RSVP. 682-8316. FREE.

Tween Scene Book Group: *Clan Apis* by Jay Hosler, grades 4-6, 4pm-5pm, Eugene Public Library. RSVP. 682-8316. FREE.

Intro to Sea Kayaking, 7pm, REI. FREE.

Art Class: Make Colorful Animals in the Style of Artist Franz Marc, grades 1-5, 3pm-4:30pm,



Traduza Dance Company presents *All Angles: A Dynamic Gallery Experience* at the Fenario Gallery Thursday, May 29 through May 31

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**EUGENE
Weekly**

Through the Glass, Clearly

PUTTING THE PRETTY IN THE BOTTLE TOPS by Lance Sparks

Glass is the latest player in a dramatic cork-troversy: To cork or not to cork? Natural or synthetic? Screw(top) it? Cap wine like beer so the waiter comes to table with churchkey? Can anyone make this stop(per)? Wine bloggers are all ablather.

The rub's in the cork. Nasty facts: About one bottle per case of wine (about 8 percent, though maybe less lately) seems infected by what's called "cork taint," technically a chemical disorder nicknamed TCA. That's for trichloroanisol, the twisted result of interaction among bacteria, cork and perhaps the bleaching agent intended to snuff bacteria. Some sinister synthesis occurs, sometimes in a single bottle, sometimes more: On opening, the wine shows aromas/flavors of wet, moldy newspapers, truly gaggy. And it doesn't

go away over time, just gets nastier.

The glass stopper's the latest wrinkle in Wineworld. It looks kinda elegant, is easy to use (press with thumbs, psh, done), is re-usable on unfinished bottles, recycles nicely — and, most important, seals the bottle while imparting no flavors of its own.

Not many producers of *any* product can stand a failure rate of 8 percent (except makers of software and managers of politicians), so wineries have scrambled



for a cork-replacement closure system that will, first, seal the bottle securely, protecting the wine from leakage of oxygen in and, of course, seepage of wine out; second, protect the wine over time because some wines need to mature, to age in the bottle, to reach their best drinking.

The screwtop has been used for years and works just fine, but until recently screwtops have been associated with cheapo *vino*, schlock. Regardless, many producers, some with reputations for top-shelf wines, have forged ahead and screw-topped their wines. Most of the world's

tastiest sauvignon blanc is produced in New Zealand — and those wines come screw-topped. Several of Oregon's top-quality producers are also taking the screw road.

Synthetic corks have been improved recently. The primary virtue of synthetics in the minds of many wine-buyers is that they not only prevent cork taint, but they preserve the traditional Ritual of the Cork. It's boggling how many consumers cherish the whole process of wrestling the cork out of the bottle, getting buzzed by the *pop!* in the pull. If you thought the wine, the tasty juice itself in the bottle, was most important, scan some of blogs on this issue.

To recap, the glass stopper (developed by Alcoa) seals perfectly, prevents cork taint, is easy to extract (needs no opener apparatus at all), delivers a modified *pop!* (actually a sorta *hissssss*) and — bonus — recycles. The first Oregon winery to adopt the glass stopper has been one of our most respected labels, Sineann. This is a very good development because when top guys make changes, others can follow. Watch for glass, or just give a hiss. ●

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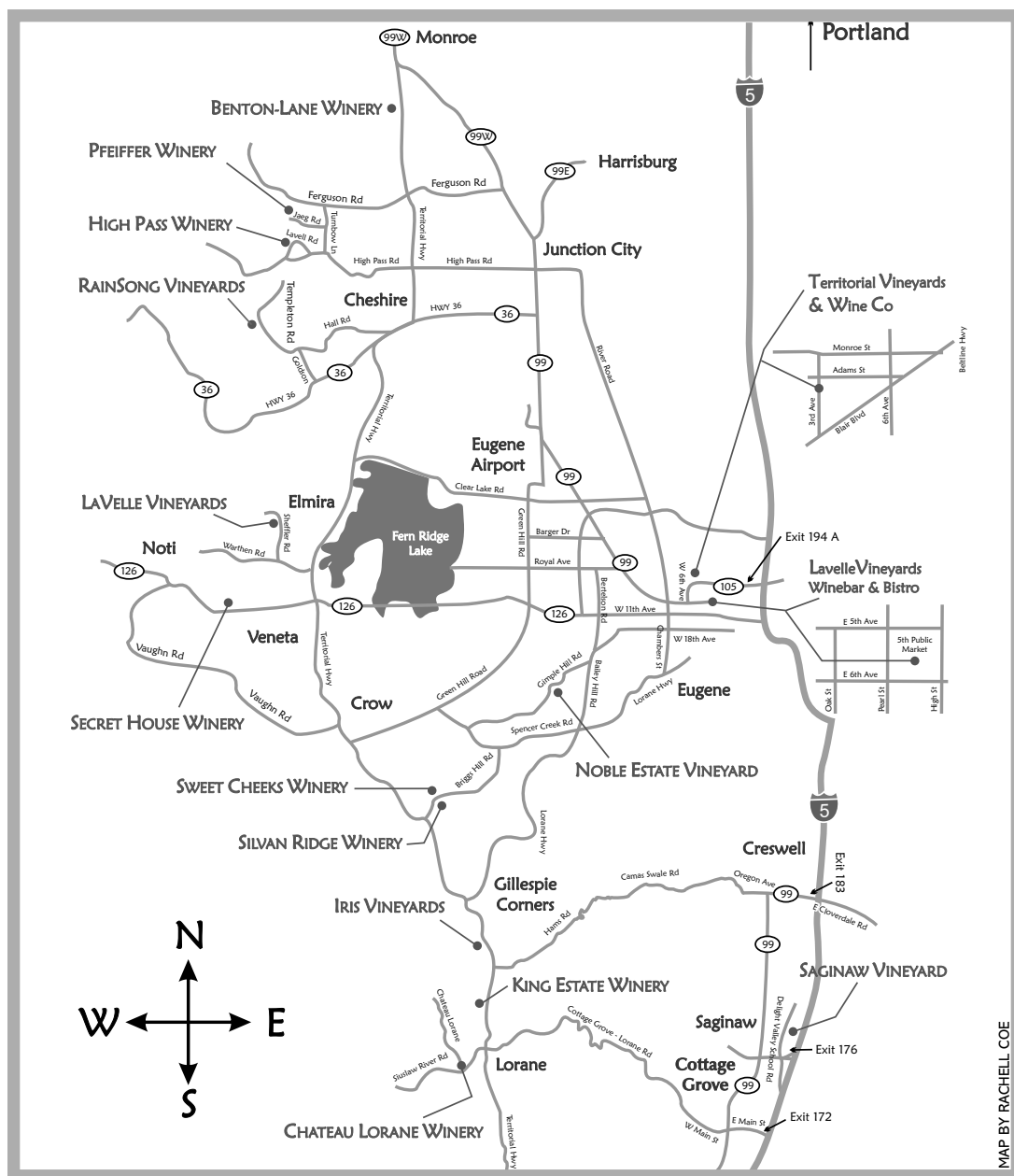
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Not Too Far to Stray

WINERIES AND VINEYARDS CLOSE TO HOME

Words by Suzi Steffen | Photo by Todd Cooper

Got that itch to get out of the house but don't want to go hiking? Ready for the strong nose and tasty follow-through or an afternoon spent spitting and rinsing? Well, the wineries and vineyards of Lane County won't disappoint.

You can get a lot of tasting in without a car just by traversing Eugene on foot, bike or LTD (Remember: drunk biking? Just as illegal as drunk driving). Though Eugene Wine Cellars isn't doing any tastings right now (a shame because you could sit at Wandering Goat Coffee and sober up over strong coffee and time), other local tasting spots provide plenty of entertainment and tangy treats.

LaVelle Vineyards' wine bar and bistro at 5th Street Public Market brings tasting room ambience to the center of town, and on the weekends, local pianist Gus Russell provides reliably enjoyable jazz, blues and show tunes while customers sip and eat. In the summer, which seems to be approaching more quickly than usual, music spills out over the patio for outdoor imbibing.

More music sparks Thursday nights at **Territorial Vineyards**, a short walk from downtown in the Whiteaker district. Territorial's big facility hosts an indoor crush pad and the full process of taking the grapes from fruit to tasty pinot. Friday and Saturday evenings also find Territorial open for tastings.

And if you're wine-tasting on the weekends (which, let's face it, would be the usual time), you can hit up more than the wineries and stay on foot: From the **Broadway** at, er, Broadway and Olive to **Monroe Street Café** to **Sundance Wine Cellars**, wine tastings dot the landscape of Eugene's Fridays and some Saturdays. I even stumbled across a tasting at the 18th Avenue Albertsons a few weeks ago — a surreal experience,

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located as the table was between the wine area and the pharmacy. Want dinner with your wine? Check out **Midtown**, where Tim Shimmel hosts tastings, puts together smart flights and brings delectable treats from the Bel Ami menu to your table.

Perhaps Saturday afternoon seems like a better time for wine-tasting, and perhaps you want to leave the city for the green, green hills of rural Lane County? Lane County wineries offer the annual Barrel Tour on May 31 and June 7, for safe tasting experiences at a reasonable price (and with appetizers included at each stop). Check out www.wineriesoflanecounty.com for more information on those tours.

Otherwise, empty the trunk, load up

your designated driver (because even the spitters eventually imbibe) and increase your credit card limit before you head out on the traditional trail: a broad circle including **Noble Estate Vineyards** just off of Lorane Highway, **Briggs Hill**, **Sweet Cheeks** and **Silvan Ridge-Hinman Vineyards** on Briggs Hill Road, and **Iris Vineyards**, **King Estate Winery** (where you can pick up organic produce and food at the marketplace and then enjoy a picnic with your wine tasting experience) and **Chateau Lorane Winery** along (and just off of) Territorial. For a slightly larger loop, include Cottage Grove's **Saginaw Vineyard** at one end of the equation. Of course, most of the vineyards are open for tasting from noon to 5 or 6 pm,

so you might want to split that loop over a full weekend of fermented grape celebration (especially Memorial Day weekend, when the wineries host open houses with music, food and fun all three days). Some wineries, like Sweet Cheeks, have special long hours planned for the Olympic Trials; check out the times before you go.

For a different tack, and possibly more music, **Secret House Winery** out by Fern Ridge Reservoir offers a great way to experience the full beauty of the area while sipping some of the pinot noirs and sweet whites during daily tastings. And of course no summer is complete without Secret House's summer music series, starting off this year with the Indigo Girls on June 27,

or the massive infusion of fantasy fun that is the Faerieworlds Festival in August.

Heading north instead of south and west, award-winning wines await you at **Benton-Lane Winery** near Monroe (and if you go up that far, you might want to include a day trip to Corvallis in the mix). On the way to Benton-Lane, drop in at **High Pass Winery** and **Pfeiffer Vineyards** near Junction City. And finally, down many a windy road and nestled into prime alpaca country, is **RainSong Vineyards** (see story, p. 9).

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Much More Than a Mimosa

ADVENTURES WITH THE UNDERAPPRECIATED WINE COCKTAIL Words by Molly Templeton | Photos by Todd Cooper



EAST OF EDEN

It all started with **one drink.**

Or rather, it started with the idea of a drink, with the recipe Bel Ami bartender Jeffrey Morgenthaler posted to his blog one afternoon. Morgenthaler was fudging a little with a “Mixology Monday” (a groupthink in which blogging mixologists focus on the same topic) topic: fruit liqueurs. Rather than using a fruit liqueur exactly, he’d created a drink that used Bombay gin, lemon, St. Germain elderflower liqueur and a syrup made from Sweet Cheeks 2006 Estate Pinot Gris.

In Morgenthaler’s photo, the resulting drink — the East of Eden — was a lovely pale peachy color. Later that day, the East of Eden tasted as good as it looked: sweet like a wine, and complicated but not needlessly so; Morgenthaler wrote that it “embodies the sort of building-layers-of-flavor thing I’ve been working on lately.”

East of Eden wasn’t just a delicious drink with perfectly layered flavors, though. It was an introduction, albeit a rather roundabout one, to an oft-neglected subcategory of cocktails (using the general definition rather than the one that specifies certain ingredients): those made with wine.

Plenty of noses will wrinkle at the thought, but those with a historical bent might nod knowingly. In *Imbibe! From Absinthe Cocktail to Whiskey Smash, a Salute in Stories and Drinks to “Professor” Jerry Thomas, Pioneer of the American Bar*, David Wondrich writes that if someone asked “the average drinking man of 1863” to choose “one drink to survive the test of time, odds are heavy he would’ve gone for the Sherry Cobbler.” That’s a drink which consists of nothing more than sherry, sugar, ice and a slice or two of orange and was described as “without a doubt the most popular beverage in the country” in an 1888 bartending manual.

But it wasn’t only fortified wine being used to create drinks way back when; the Champagne cocktail — sugar, bitters, lemon twist and Champagne — was “the first evolved cocktail on record,” Wondrich writes, meaning that it was the first time the word cocktail was used as “a generic term for any short, iced drink.” But while sherry cobbler and claret punch have fallen off most menus, Champagne (and other sparkling wine) drinks still crop up everywhere, from the mediocre mimosas on fixed-price brunch menus to the selection of delicious Champagne cocktails on Marché’s bar menu.

Marché bar manager James West offers a seasonally changing apéritif and a handful of other Champagne drinks, some of which change throughout the year and some of which stay on the menu — like the sparkling cosmopolitan, of which West says, “It’s popular in the winter, because it’s kind of a festive, Christmas party approach to the cosmopolitan, and then

in the summer it's just really refreshing."

For the next few weeks, Marché's seasonal apéritif is Monmousseau Brut with a rhubarb-vanilla syrup (which West also uses in a rhubarb sour with vodka and Meyer lemon). West says the drink is a way to showcase the housemade syrup without distracting from it with other ingredients. "You can see how it reacts with the bubbles, and you can explore the nuances of that ingredient, so you can taste the rhubarb, the vanilla, the acids, all those complex flavors integrating, and they just sit on the canvas of Champagne."

The apéritif is a wonderful drink with an unusual flavor, and it shares space in the Champagne cocktails section of the menu with both West's concoctions and classics of the genre, including the Kir royale (named for a mayor of Dijon, France) and the French 75, which takes its name from a piece of WWI French artillery and is apparently ripe for experimentation. The new Jo Fed's lists on its online menu a variation called the Fifth Avenue 75, which adds Grand Marnier to the mix, and at Bel Ami, Morgenthaler's menu includes an absinthe-washed French 75 that gives an extra sharpness and kick to the drink.

West's drink menu also includes the Champagne julep, an inspired variation on the mint julep. "I love bourbon and mint and sugar, but sometimes you just want mint and sugar — but you still want a drink out of it, and not just water," West says. "It's an active, tall, elegant looking thing ... not too sweet." His seasonal apéritif shifts every few months, appropriately, and might include pear brandy in the winter or a blackberry coulis with basil in the summer. "Our menu is about celebrating bounty in seasonal offerings, and the cocktail menu is an exact reflection of that concept," he explains.

Marché and Bel Ami aren't the only places making Champagne drinks, which offer a relatively low-alcohol summer treat that does just what Amanda Hesser, writing in *The New York Times* in 2001, suggests a hot-weather quaff ought to do: "A summer drink should be fleeting, not sustaining," she writes. "It should slake your palate, cool you off and give you a whiff of alcohol without knocking you off your feet."

West expands on that idea, saying, "It's ideal for summer to have something cold, bubbly and spritzly with some

seasonal great ingredients in it, or just nice produce." The classic bellini, a blend of Prosecco and peach puree, appears on Café Lucky Noodle's online menu; in West Eugene, Azul offers sparkling wine drinks with raspberry coulis or mango puree.

Of course, it's not too hard to find a combination of wine and fruit in the summer: Plenty of places offer sangria, the Spanish, summery wine, brandy and citrus beverage. But for the sake of space and variety, we'll leave sangria alone for the moment (it does, after all, usually come in a pitcher rather than a cocktail glass, though that changes in some restaurants) after noting that Davis' Restaurant has a delicious-sounding white wine sangria available, and Iralia's Mark Zolun says his restaurant does sangrias with both red and white wines as occasional summer specials.

At the moment, Marché's bar menu is one of the few places nearby where you'll find a non-sangria drink made with non-sparkling wine: the bicyclette, an apéritif composed of Campari, dry white wine and soda. In this recipe, says West, "You're not really doing anything to the wine. You're just using it for what it is and making it work." Morgenthaler notes, "I don't get many orders for those, but worldwide it's still a very popular drink."

The bicyclette is a bright, vibrant red; with sweetness and herbal flavors from the Campari (the Italian apéritif flavored with herbs and fruits) and the dry sauvignon blanc with which West makes the drink, it is, as he suggests, a drink for nursing as you settle in and relax before dinner.

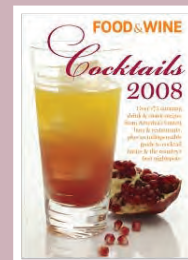
Across Fifth Avenue at Chanterelle, you might, if you time your visit properly, find yourself in possession of a glass of vin de pamplemousse, a citrus-wine apéritif that's probably infrequently made at home as it takes considerable planning ahead. Chef Brendan Mahaney found the recipe in one of the Chez Panisse cookbooks (*Chez Panisse Fruit*), but as he describes the preparation, it's clearly not a precise, recipe-required sort of thing: "I make it in big batches. Six bottles of crisp white wine, about a 750 ml bottle of vodka, some vanilla beans and a cup of sugar... then you chop up a bunch of citrus: various types of grapefruit, three of each, ruby and white. You'll want some oranges in there. You can use caracara, you can use some Meyer lemon or regular lemon. We've put kumquats in before."

After the fruits are sliced (peel and all), they're stirred into the booze and covered with a plate (to keep the fruit submerged). "Then you let it sit in a cool dark spot for about a month," Mahaney says, "and then you have a refreshing beverage." (A *New York Times* recipe gets a bit more specific, instructing readers to let the mix sit for 40 days and to stir it once a day.) Chanterelle recently finished off a batch of vin de pamplemousse, but Mahaney's got more in the works. He notes that the citrus is best and easiest to come by as winter comes to a close, "but then we wait for a month and we hope for nicer weather" in which to enjoy the drink.

Finding recipes that involve non-sparkling, non-fortified, non-aromatized wine can be a bit of a hunt. *Food and Wine Cocktails 2008*, the annual collection of some of the best new recipes put together by *Food and Wine* magazine, lists in its "Wine, Beer and Apéritifs" chapter 10 bubbly beverages and two with still wines (a vanilla-pecan cocktail which calls for "crisp white wine" and a cobbler made with ruby port), and a few drinks with a bit of wine (a Lillet here, a viognier there) turn up throughout the rest of the book. Portlander Mittie Hellmich's *The Ultimate Bar Book* offers a few dozen fortified wine recipes, but of just plain wine, there are only eight, and one of those is the white wine spritzer. Though it doesn't turn up in either of these books, brave souls might try the calimocha — half red wine and half cola — which one blog dubs "the ambrosia of misguided Spanish youths."

Perhaps the simple reason there aren't too many popular mixed drinks made with still wine, especially red, is that wine's flavors can be too rich and complicated to play well with others. *Mr. Boston's Platinum Edition* explains, "It's true that there aren't many cocktails that employ classical varietal wines like chardonnay, cabernet or merlot ... but wine is a broad term for several subcategories," into which fall the likes of Fernet-Branca, Dubonnet and Lillet. And then there are those wines which some of us may occasionally forget are wines, like, oh, vermouth, which falls into the "Wines and Fortified Wines" category of *The Ultimate Bar Book* when it's taking center stage rather than playing its more familiar supporting role in most martinis and Manhattans. As

further reading:



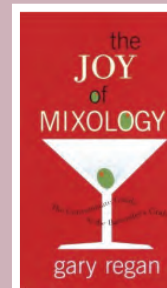
Food & Wine Cocktails 2008. Food & Wine Books, 2008. Paperback, \$14.95.

Imbibe! From Absinthe Cocktail to Whiskey Smash, a Salute in



Stories and Drinks to "Professor" Jerry Thomas, Pioneer of the American Bar, David Wondrich.

Perigree Books, 2007. Hardcover, \$23.95.



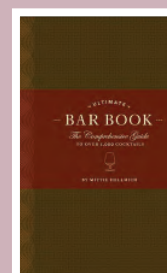
The Joy of Mixology, Gary Regan. Clarkson Potter, 2003. Hardcover, \$30.



Raising the Bar, Nick Mautone. Artisan, 2004. Hardcover, \$27.50.



The Savoy Cocktail Book, Harry Craddock. Pavilion, 2007. Hardcover, \$19.95.



The Ultimate Bar Book, Mittie Hellmich. Chronicle Books, 2006. Hardcover, \$19.95.

CHAMPAGNE JULEP



COFFEE COCKTAIL



SPARKLING COSMOPOLITAN



Morgenthaler says, "A 10:1 bone-dry martini doesn't exude a lot of 'wine-ness,' but a Martinez made 2:1 with maraschino and orange bitters certainly does."

In the interest of education, both Morgenthaler and West were willing to make wine-based drinks that don't appear on their menus. Morgenthaler whipped up a coffee cocktail, a drink found in *Imbibe!* that seems to have taken its name entirely from its appearance, which is frothy and the color of well-creamed joe. But it's made with port (for which Morgenthaler substituted Pedro Ximénez, a sweet sherry), brandy, powdered sugar and an egg, and garnished with nutmeg. It has a rich, unexpected flavor that, thanks at least in part to the nutmeg, with its holiday associations, begs to be sipped when it's cold outside. The egg adds texture and richness, but the drink isn't remotely "eggy."

The same can't quite be said of the Sevilla cocktail #2, which West found in *The Savoy Cocktail Book*. A combination of port, Bacardi rum, egg and powdered sugar, the drink has an oddly raw cookie dough-like

aroma, and the rum gives it a disconcerting strength. It's not bad, though; it's just a little on the weird side. "It looks gross," West says, "but a lot of things from that era are gross. All that fabulous '50s food."

On the other hand, two claret drinks, variations on which make appearances in *Imbibe!*, were bright, interesting surprises. The claret cobbler, made of dry red wine, sugar and water and garnished, like the once-famous sherry cobbler, with orange, turned out to be like a mild, spiceless sangria (the orange's proximity to one's nose while drinking doubtless helps with this suggestion). West says of cobbler that some people "get really busy with them. But I like the refreshing simple one." (It's worth noting that if you try this at home, don't make the mistake of getting a fruity-sweet red. It just doesn't work right.)

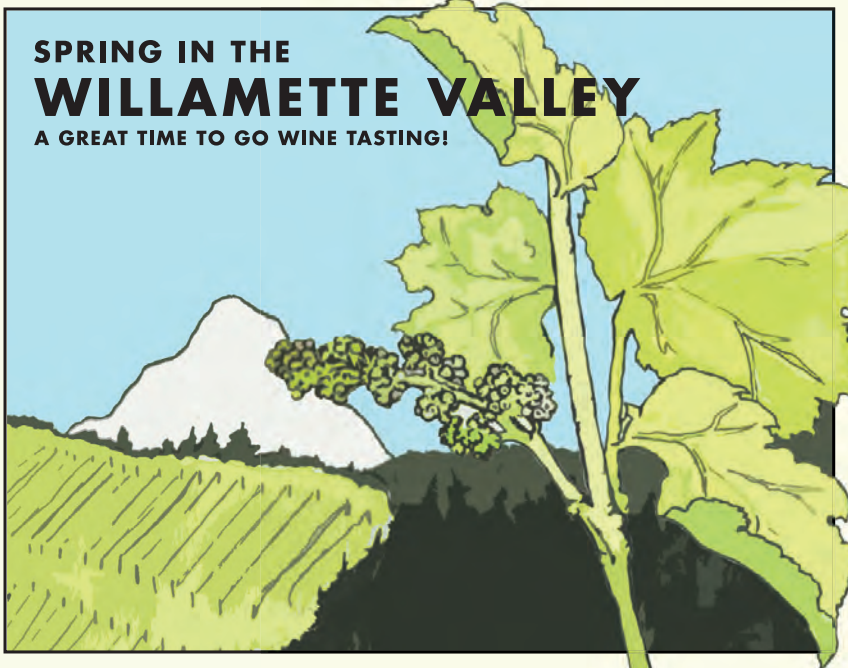
Also refreshing and fairly simple is the claret lemonade, a bone-dry, tart, almost bracing drink made with claret, club soda, lemon juice and powdered sugar. "It's totally an eye game," West says of the vividly purple

drink, "because you're like, oh, it's totally a blackberry rickey! It's going to be a sweet, super-syrupy thing, and it's not that way." Each sip tastes first of lemons and then finishes with the flavors of the dry red wine. Tasty though the lemonade is, West's quick to point out that making it is just for fun, and not representative of what his bar regularly does. "[The bicyclette] is the standby for us at Marché; this is what we love, here, served with some Provençal olives."

In these summery, simple, cold red wine drinks, the wine is the star; when you use sparkling wine, though, the wine is the setting. "With brut," West says, "you can use champagne as a medium to showcase other ingredients that are usually only shown with hard liquors, like mint and Champagne." Morgenthaler says, "One of the great things about using wine in a cocktail is that it adds an additional layer of complexity to the drink." The clearest, simplest example of this came when West poured a bit of Marché's housemade Meyer limoncello alone — and then with Champagne. On its

own, the limoncello is delicious and sticky-sweet, syrupy and heady; in combination with the wine it brightens and opens up, revealing more of its fruit flavor and instantly becoming more playful, more sophisticated, more, yes, complex.


If, after all this, you still think wine ought to only be a purist's drink, there's probably no changing your mind about wine cocktails. But there are far more ways to use wine as an ingredient than just in cooking. "The world is almost always missing out by overlooking relatively odd, or old, cocktails," Morgenthaler says. He continues, "Wine-based drinks like the bicyclette, for example, are lighter in alcohol and are therefore more conducive to social drinking, especially at this time of year." And that's just one reason to try a few wine cocktails. You want others? They taste good; they're a change of pace; they offer a way to make red wine thirst-quenching; and, well, there's just something fun about them — both in the drinking and in the history you might come across while searching them out.



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DIY Wine

RAINSONG OFFERS UP A CHANCE TO BOTTLE YOUR OWN

by Suzi Steffen

French café music plays softly in the background, and a man in a beret chats up the customers in the shop. His wife discusses wine-tasting trips to Italy while their daughter pours tastes from several different bottles to the 35 or so people lining up, canapés in hand.

This isn't France. Nope. It's Lane County's own RainSong Winery, where proprietors-since-1984 Merry and Mike Fix serve up a unique experience to even the most hardened wine snob: bottling your own barrel of Pacific Northwest wine. While participants in the Fixes' bottling parties don't get to crush grapes with their bare feet, they do return home with considerably less sticky appendages and with a case (or two or three) of a wine that's almost ready to drink. (It takes a couple of months for wine to settle down from "bottling shock.")

The hundreds of people who swarm RainSong for bottling parties each year, taking all of the RainSong vintage pinot noir and forcing the Fixes to import wine from other Oregon (and, one year, Washington) vineyards, aren't the only large mammals looking for a buzz, the Fixes say.

After groups nosh for a bit, Mike rounds up wandering group members who are playing with dogs in the fields or hopping down to the pond to look at tadpoles. Then he explains the process to them, talking about how the pulp from the white wines — chardonnay and others — retains sugar. So when the Fixes dumped the pulp back into the fields a few years ago, the sugar in the pulp started to ferment.

One morning, Mike says, he came out to find a black bear snoring beside one of the (decimated) piles. It was sleeping off a monster hangover, apparently — and Merry Fix reports that it returned for a few nights running. "We even have pictures," she says.

After the bear story and some instruction, the fun begins in the barn, which holds

many barrels of wine along one wall. Your group drops the plates you've been using for your potluck picnic, grabs a wine glass from Fiona with the very wine that's being bottled (Hey! Don't drink too much of your own wine before you get it out of the

more corks into the machine, Mike tells stories about how he sometimes has to fix the somewhat elderly contraption. At the same time, he's usually coaching the person doing the corking in exact technique, explaining to the person sticking bottles on the machine that fills them up six at a time how *precisely* to slide the bottles off without wasting too much wine or spattering it on their clothes — and hollering for someone else to run an empty box down to the end of the line, where the wiper/labeler duo has finished 12 bottles and would like to fill a case.



COURTESY OF RAINSONG WINERY

barrel!) and gets down and dirty with the liquid that a barrel holds.

The etiquette of a RainSong wine bottling demands that people spend approximately equal time on each task. Of course, that depends on Mike Fix's focus on ringing the "change tasks" bell. Line up too early, and you'll be stuck wiping bottles and carefully placing long white government-required warning labels on the slightly damp glass.

If you have strong triceps, the corking machine is the place to be. As he dumps

Then someone will interrupt him to say, "Ring that bell!" If he agrees enough time has gone by, the bell rings and people move down one task.

Meanwhile, Merry keeps track of the cases at the other end, carrying them to a stack and following who has bought which case, who's picking up a case for another person and who wants some extra bottles RainSong just happens to have around. The white cases pile up on the concrete floor (about 25 cases to a barrel, and

bottling one barrel takes approximately one hour). Since it's often chilly inside the structure, protecting the wine, you're likely to zip out into the sun or to stand next to the fire hearths on the patio before zooming back inside. It's a process filled with camaraderie, new friends, mistakes and joy, and at the end of it all, you realize what a great place this is for a celebration or a fundraiser for your favorite charity.

I have bottled five or six times at RainSong, including one cold and rainy November night when people descended from all over the state to celebrate a birthday party and to return home with a special batch of birthday wine. Usually, however, it's warmer weather when bunches of friends, Rotary clubs, Korean War veterans or nonprofit groups looking for a unique way to raise money head out Hwy. 99N to RainSong.

For instance, in late April, the Lord Leebrick Theatre held a fundraiser at RainSong. Craig Willis, the Leebrick's artistic director, explains just why this works so well: "The connection between wine and theatre goes all the way back to ancient Greece." Patrons of the theater company prepaid \$15 a bottle for the wine (which is usually \$60-\$100 for a case of 12) and picnicked on a warm day amid Mike and Merry's 8 acres of land.

The tasks involved in wine bottling lead to laughter and quick bonding. "We make new friends while we also raise some money to help with scholarships for our education programs," Willis says. And that's just what the Fixes want — a niche, in a world of drastically increasing competition, where people connect and enjoy the process.

Even when the Fixes have to buy wine from the Rogue Valley for folks to bottle, Merry says, she likes to keep it as local as possible: "It's a form of community supported agriculture." And there's nothing like the satisfaction of opening a nice table wine that you filled, corked, wiped, labeled and packed yourself. ●

RainSong is open for tastings on Memorial Day weekend and Thanksgiving Day weekend and for barrel bottling parties by appointment. Call 998-1786 for more info on bottling parties or where to purchase the RainSong vintage in Eugene — or just to hear more about the bear.

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Southing It

UMPQUA GIVES UP THE GOODS AND GREATS

Words by Lance Sparks | Photos by Kat Chinn

Oregon's glorious Umpqua Valley: See it, savor it now, tell the grandkids you were there when ...
... When the valley still sustained that small-town feel in places like Winston, Elkton, Rice Hill, even in the "city" of Roseburg.

... When the whole region struggled with changing its identity from a place defined by logging and milling to a place where, once again, some might see reborn

the dream of living a life by farming (the same dream that died a century ago, driving farmers into the woods to log or into the mills to labor as wage-dogs in someone else's business).

... When Umpqua wines were just emerging from the shadows of looming Callahan Ridge, the sheer escarpment that stretches a rain-shadow across low-rolling hills at its feet, to be recognized as among the very best wines anywhere.

This should come as no surprise, but, surprisingly, it still does: There's *great* wine in the Umpqua Valley. Not just good wine, though there's plenty of such, no, genuinely great: superb, delicious, world-class. Of course, a reputation for "great" takes time; in wine, in most cases, name recognition builds over centuries, and the Umpqua has had centuries — but not in wine.

In fact, the oldest vineyards in Oregon's post-Prohibition era are planted in the Umpqua Valley. In 1961, Richard Sommer, against expert advice, planted HillCrest Vineyards, just a little north and west of Roseburg, in the Riesling grapes that, he was convinced, would become the defining varietal of this verdant valley. Well, he was right: HillCrest Riesling was and still might

be among the finest, but the valley has also become home-land to others of the "noble" varieties (*vinis vinifera*). The full range, because the valley affords growers a wide spectrum of soils, climate and slopes, from the coolest of the cool in the north around the homey burg of Elkton, nearly perfect for pinot noir, to high-heat acreage suitable for the biggest of the big reds — cabernet sauvignon, cabernet franc, merlot, tempranillo, syrah — and the wines, made by committed and talented makers, have begun raking in gold medals and winning hearts and minds of wider-world wine writers.

Heading for the Umpqua Valley is like taking a trip in time to a land where Oregon's past co-exists with its future. Wend your way an hour south to a wonderland:

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The Vipers featuring Deb Cleveland 5:00pm - 9:00pm
In the Arbor: DeDe "Big Hair" Bardot • 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Start north, in tiny Elkton (I-5 exit 162, Hwy 38 through Drain), with two tasting rooms in the "downtown," two at vineyards: Four wineries thrive here, three small, one hefty. **Anindor** has a tasting room in town; they're producing good Gewürztraminer, Riesling, pinots noir and gris, all salmon safe. **Bradley Vineyards** tastes at the vineyard, as does **River's Edge**; both are committed to pinot noir. The area's biggest producer is **Brandborg**, and Terry Brandborg is also one of the valley's (and the state's) most respected and experienced winemakers. The Elkton tasting room is spacious, modern and attractive; even more attractive are the wines. Brandborg's pinot noir is superb, the 2006 version called "Love Puppets" pure gold. Take time to nosh at Tomaselli's Pastry Mill and Café, then wind along the milky-jade rush of the Umpqua River, back to I-5.

Exit 150, come to refurbed country house, tasting room for **Sienna Ridge Estate**. Meet Susan Turner, manager, who not only guides guests through a wide array of wines but also provides nibbles of crackers, cheeses, and homemade tasties

crafted to match each wine. Sienna's wines are excellent, especially their whites. Load up; they're often hard to find.

South on Goodrich Hwy., wheel in at **MarshAnne Landing** and sample the hospitality of Greg and Fran Cramer in their beautiful new tasting room and sip their Bordeaux- and Rhone-style reds, big reds with zippy spice, made for food.

Back to the freeway, off at Exit 136: Fort McKay Rd. to **Henry Estate Winery**, another pioneer vineyard, homesteaded in 1865, planted grapes 1971, making a diversity of wines but noted for distinctive chardonnay, dry Gewürztraminer, pinot noir and, lately, pinot gris, plus some knockout dessert wines.

Just north of Henry, on Cole Road, **Misty Oaks** is just getting started, aiming to make distinguished pinot noir. Just south of Henry, a string of boutique wineries has sprung up along Garden Valley Road, selling their wares only in their tasting rooms (so far), some of them making surprising varieties: **Reustle Prayer Rock**, for instance, produces a very promising version of the Austrian varietal called



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Gruner Veltliner (they call it Gru-V). **Becker Vineyard** this year released its first wine, a yummy 2007 pinot gris, with more to come, including big reds cabernet sauvignon and syrah. **Julianna Vineyards** opened its tasting room this year and will be offering warm-region whites like sauvignon blanc and Semillon, plus cabernets franc and sauvignon and merlot. **Palotai Vineyard** boasts "Old World craftsmanship" and some unusual wines; gotta try Bull's Blood, Bella Bianca, Indigo, right?

Across the river, Melrose Road and **Melrose Vineyards**, the best-stocked tasting room in the valley, is run by Deedy Parker while Wayne Parker, a guy with a "farming habit," cultivates grapes and describes Umpqua as "land of a hundred valleys" each with distinct terroir (French

term for something like 'soil flavors'). White wines are round and ripe, and 2005 Umpqua Valley Pinot Noir a tasty bargain. All the wines sold on-site only.

A few clicks due west lies **HillCrest Vineyards**, oldest in Oregon, yielding very good viognier and syrah, sold only on-site, and it's a sight to see.

Okay, breathe, break: Take a charming room at **Morning Glory B&B**, let Jane Frost whip up dinner and delish breakfast while Tom tends an elegant table in deep-country setting. Sleep tight. Wake to a gaggle of geese and pots of hot coffee, ready for Round II:

Dip due south on Colonial Road, to **Abacela**, Earl and Hilda Jones' dream-site for recreating in America a piece of their beloved Spain, complete with wines made

from Spain's greatest grapes: tempranillo for big red, Albarino for floral white (a parking lot sign points a finger east and reads "Rioja 5469 mi."). The Joneses are going to be hard to keep up with: They have one of the most distinctive sites in the state, from Cobblestone Hill to Chaotic Ridge, plus some of the most breathtaking views anywhere — and their wines, top to bottom, are just outstanding, the Spanish varietals drawing rave reviews from international wine press. But do NOT miss Earl's Port, the real thing.

West to **Girardet**, planted in 1971 by one of Oregon wine's gentlemen, Philippe Girardet, to grow Rhone varietals of his home country. Son Marc has now taken charge of winemaking. Some of their best are "made" wines, blends of various grapes to achieve a house style;

Girardet Grand Rouge, for instance, is always flavorful, food-friendly and a bargain.

Eastward, through Winston (Safari if you can), through Dillard, to **Spangler Vineyards** and a virtual barrage of blockbuster wines. The whites are lovely, the 2006 viognier a gold-medal winner with great style and fruit. But the reds are moonshots, especially cabernet franc, merlot, cabernet sauvignon, drop-dead 2006 syrah reserve and shocking '06 petite syrah. Pat and Loree Spangler are not only producing super wines, but they are among the folks whose passions are reshaping, revitalizing, re-imagining the Umpqua Valley.

This beautiful place, we predict, will soon define itself as a destination for lovers of beautiful lands, lively rivers and genuinely great wines. Come see. ●



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calendar

Springfield Public Library. FREE.
Hershey's Track & Field Games continues. See Tuesday.

LECTURE "Hearing, Balance & Ringing In Your Ears," w/Dr. R. Craig Ford & Dr. Donna Hill, 1:30pm, Willamalane Adult Activity Center. 736-4444. FREE.

LITERARY ARTS Readings by top winners of Oregon Quarterly's Northwest Perspective Essay Contest, 7:30pm, Gerlinger Hall, UO. FREE.

MUSIC J Wail, 9pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$5.

Janet Robin, 7pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$5.

Performing Arts Students, grande finale concert, 12:15pm, Hult Center lobby. FREE.

Spring Ensemble Concerts: Lane Chamber Orchestra & Symphonic Band, 7:30pm today & 3pm June 1, LCC. 463-5202. \$4-\$8 sug. don.

Hope Abbey Sacred Harp Singing, 7:30pm, Eugene Masonic Cemetery. FREE.

The Riverside Chamber Symphony Spring Concert, 7:30pm, Wildish Community Theatre, Springfield. 868-0689.

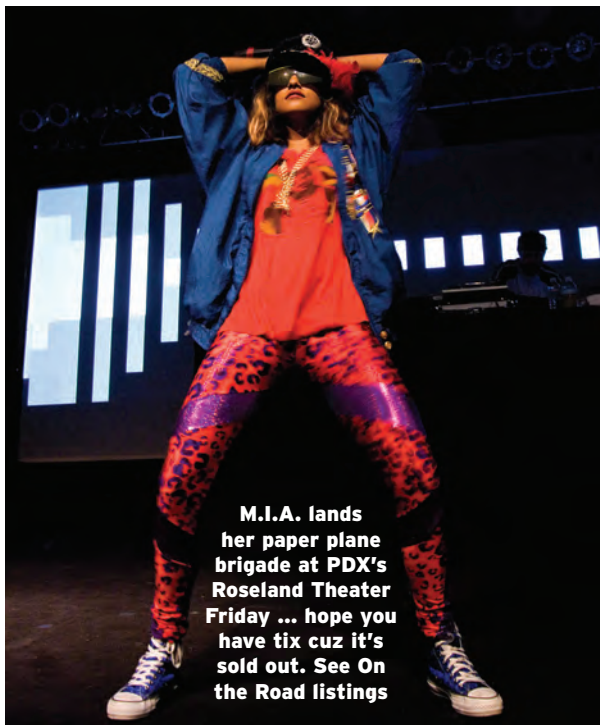
ON THE AIR "New Dimensions" presents "Expanding Consciousness in the Infosphere" w/Steven Vedro, 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

"The Jefferson Exchange" discusses Callahan's Lodge reopening w/ lodge owner Ron Bergquist, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

THEATER Or Not To Be continues. See Thursday, May 22.

Lotus Lessons continues. See Thursday, May 22.

Wind in the Willows, 7pm today, tomorrow & May 31; 1:30pm May 31, Oak Hill School, 86397 Eldon Schafer Dr. \$10 sug. don.



TODD COOPER

CORVALLIS events

Note - Continuation dates for out-of-town events are listed under the first day of the event.

FRIDAY, MAY 23 *The Rainmaker*, 7:30pm today, tomorrow & May 29-31; 3pm June 1, The Russell Tripp Performance Center, LBCC, Albany. 917-4531. \$9, \$7 stu., sr.

SATURDAY, MAY 24 Farmers' Market, 9am-1pm, City Hall parking lot, Albany. FREE.

Tyee Wine Cellars Celebration, food, music & wine, 12pm-5pm today, tomorrow & May 26, 26335 Greenberry Rd. 753-8754. \$10, FREE (12 & under).

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28 Student Design Exhibition & Fashion Show, 7pm, CH2M-Hill Alumni Center, OSU. FREE.

Grief Support Group, 2pm, Corvallis Senior Center. FREE.

ON THE Road

FRIDAY, MAY 23 M.I.A., 9pm, Roseland Theater, PDX. SOLD OUT.

M83, The Fast Computers, 9pm, Doug Fir Lounge, PDX. 21+. \$15.

Destroyer, 9pm, Aladdin Theater, PDX. \$12.

Saturday Market

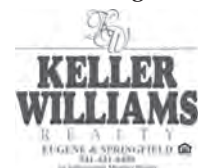


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calendar

The Touchy Feeliacs, 9pm, The Landmark, Yachats. FREE.

Gourmet Lady Anniversary Party, 1pm-4pm, The Wine Place, Yachats. FREE.

SATURDAY, MAY 24 The Streamliners, 9pm, The Landmark, Yachats. FREE.

Wine Tasting: Organic Wines, 1pm-4pm, The Wine Place, Yachats. FREE.

Spring Arts & Crafts Festival, 10am-5pm today & 9am-4pm tomorrow, Yachats Commons, Yachats. FREE.

Loch Lomond, Cave Singers, Triumph of Lethargy, 9pm, Doug

Fir Lounge, PDX. 21+. \$10.

SUNDAY, MAY 25 The Brunettes & James Dean Kindle, 8pm, Crystal Ballroom, PDX. \$22 adv., \$25 door.

Ladytron, Datarock, 9pm, Wonder Ballroom, PDX. \$25.

Wine tasting: Reds from Around the World, 1pm-4pm, The Wine Place, Yachats. FREE.

Alpha Dhalia, 8pm, The Landmark, Yachats. FREE.

TUESDAY, MAY 27 Jamie Lidell, James Pants, 9:30pm, Berbat's Pan, PDX. 21+. \$20.

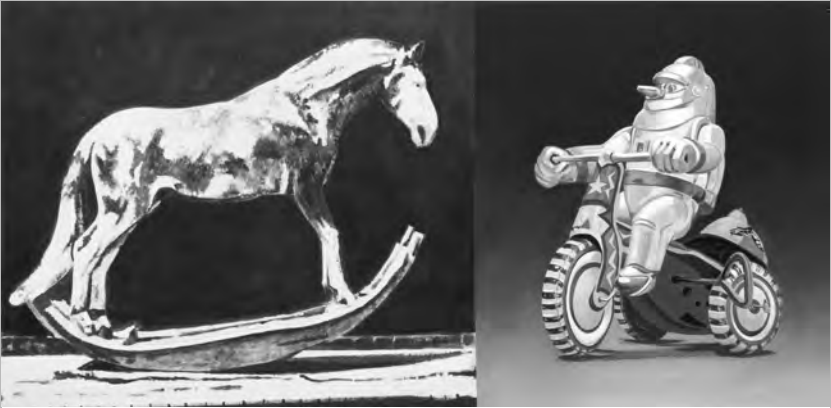
WEDNESDAY, MAY 28 Agent Ribbons, Autopilot is for Lovers,

C.O.C.O., Ascetic Junkies, 9pm, Holocene, PDX. 21+. \$5.

THURSDAY, MAY 29 High Ceiling, 9pm, The Landmark, Yachats. FREE.

ATTN: OPPORTUNITIES

The McKenzie Watershed Council seeks members for monthly Council meetings and to participate in conservation & restoration activities. Contact Larry Six at coordinator@mckenziewc.org or 687-9076.



Rock and Roll and other paintings by Jay Backstrand show at Jacobs Gallery through July 12

art in the galleries

All exhibits free unless otherwise noted.

OPENING

LCC Art Gallery Work by graphic design grad students, from May 26 through June 12. Bldg 11, LCC.

Karin Clarke Gallery "Expressions of the Northwest and Beyond," work by Nelson Sandgren, through June 28. 10am-5:30pm T-Sa. 760 Willamette St.

Jacobs Gallery Paintings by Jay Backstrand, through July 12. Noon-4pm Tu-F; 11am-3pm Sa. Hult Center. 684-5635.

CONTINUING

Adell-McMillan Gallery Pacific Northwest Art Annual, through June 6. 7am-11pm daily. EMU, UO.

Art of Glass Fused & functional art by Jan Piper & Linda Mills-Price, through May 28. 9am-5:30pm M-F; 9am-4pm Sa. 790 Blair.

Axe & Fiddle "Artists' Tree: A Van Family Art Show," group exhibit, through May 28. 657 E. Main St., Cottage Grove.

Backstreet Gallery Work by Melody Ashley, through May 31. 11am-5pm W-Sa. 327 Laurel St., Florence.

Benton County Historical Society "Intertwined," an exhibit of handmade baskets by Bud Lane, Mariana Mace and Margaret Mathewson, through July 19. 1101 Main St., Philomath.

BRING Gallery "Re:ART an Earth Day Celebration" group show, through May 29. 8:30am-5pm M-Sa; 10am-5pm Su. 4446 Franklin Blvd., Glenwood.

Café Soriah Watercolors & mosaics by Marilyn Shefa Marcus, through May 31. 384 W. 13th.

Davis' Restaurant Paintings by Isaac Marquez & photography by Tom Bodhi Reeves, through Oct. 31. 94 W. Broadway.

Diablo's Downtown Lounge Oil paintings & lithographs by Bo Hamer, through May 31. 959 Pearl St.

DIVA Currency Exchange International quilt exhibit by 90 international fiber artists; "3/32," sculpture by Jud Turner; "Prints & Drawings About People" by Steven Weeks; "In Dust We Trust," photography by Tom Bodhi Reeves; "As The Road Turns," work by Kristi Koons; "Bent Frames," work by UO video artists, through May 24. Noon-5pm Tu-Sa. 110 W. Broadway.

Dr. Don Dexter Watercolors by Ann Simas; photography by Jon Deming, through May 29. 8am-5pm M-F. 2233 Willamette St., Bldg. B.

Emerald Art Center Emerald Spring Exhibition National Juried Painting Show; work by Springfield public school students, through May 30. 11am-4pm Tu-Sa. 500 Main Street, Spfd.

Espresso PRN West "Natural Science Illustration," by Barbara Gleason, through June 16. Sacred Heart Medical Center, 3rd floor, 1255 Hilyard St.

Espresso PRN West Photography by Sebrina Anderson, through July 8. PeaceHealth Medical Group annex, 1162 Willamette.

Eugene Tattoo & Body Piercing Co. Ceramics, prints, photography and sculpture by Cameron Straub, through August 31. 11am-7pm Tu-Sa. 1361 Willamette.

Fairbanks Gallery "The World Between," sculptural books by Heejung Kim, through May 28. 8am-5pm M-F. Fairbanks Hall, OSU.

First Alternative Co-op Mosaics by Debra Sherwood, through May 31. South Store, 1007 SE 3rd St., Corvallis.

Florence Event Center Galleries "Plein Air on the Oregon Coast," watercolors by John Bradley, Darlene Faust, Charlie Anderson & Pam Parker; "Flame Kissed Bead Treasures" by Peggy Gilbertson, through May 28. Photography Rent-A-Rod, through June 30. 9am-5pm M-F and by appointment and during events. 715 Quince St., Florence.

Gallery Obscura Paintings & mixed media by James Herman, through May 29. Open by appt., 844-1286. 1255 Railroad Ave.

Health Information Library, PeaceHealth Medical Group Annex Watercolors & mixed media by Ellen Gabehart, through May 30. 9am-4:30pm M-Th; 9am-1pm F. 1202 Willamette.

Imagine Jewelry designs by Mana Designs, plus 20 other local artisans, through May 30. 10am-7pm M-Sa; 10am-6pm Su. 296 E. 5th.

Infinity Mercantile Drawings by Lily Gilbert, through May 27. Noon-8pm M-Sa; noon-6pm Su. 780 Blair Blvd.

Island Park Art Gallery "Painting the Wilderness," work by Will Klausmeier, through May 29. Willamalane Adult Activity Center, 215 W. C St., Spfd.

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art "Open/End" MFA 2008 student exhibit, through June 8. Five paintings by Impressionist & Post-Impressionist French painters, through June 8. 11am-8pm W; 11am-5pm Th-Su. 1430 Johnson Ln., UO. \$5, \$3 stu. & sr., FREE UO stu., faculty, staff.

Keystone Café Paintings by Sophie Navarro, through May 25. 7am-3pm daily. W. 5th and Lawrence.

Knight Law Center 2nd Floor Gallery "Nuances of Nature," photography by Erna Gilbertson, through May 26. Knight Law Center, UO, 15th & Agate.

La Follette Gallery "Dance," photography of the Eugene Ballet dancers by Kent Peterson, through May 31. 10am-6pm M-F; 10am-5pm Sa. 931 Oak.

LaVerne Krause Gallery Work by Joshua Romberg, Annelise Ostberg & Aram Choi, May 19-23; work by Crystal Gregory, Chris Samuels & Matthew Shelley, May 27-30; work by video art students, June 2-6; furniture design & fabrication by Interior Architecture students, June 9-13. 10am-6pm M-Th; 10am-3pm F. 101 Lawrence, UO.

Magical Dreamtime "Spiritual Icons," work by Shirley Collins, through May 30. 11am-6pm M-Sa. 1041 Willamette.

Museum of Natural & Cultural History "Walk a Mile in These Shoes: The Stories They Tell," exhibit, through Aug. 24. "Cultural Horizons" landscape photography by Dennis Griffin, through June 22. 11am-5pm W-Su. 1680 E. 15th. \$3, \$2 youths, sr.

Museum of Unfine Art Work by Eugene & Springfield youth artists & local artists Sam Buchanan & Drew Colburn, through May 31. 11am-6pm M-Sa. 537 Willamette.

New Odyssey Photograph by Janet Gicker, through May 31. 7:30am-6pm M-F; 9am-5pm Sa. 1004 Willamette.

New Zone Gallery Photographs, recycled art & paintings by Steve & Mia Sage LaRicca, through May 30. Noon-6pm Tu-Su. 164 W. Broadway.

Opus6ix "My Intimate View of Nature," acrylic paintings by Ellen Dittebrandt, through June 16. 10am-6pm Tu-Th & Sa, 10am-8pm F, 11am-4pm Su. 22 W. 7th.

Paradise City Cafe "Tiki Time," work by Richard Quigley, through June 30. 861 Willamette.

Rainbow Optics Watercolors, etchings & monoprints by Jani Hoberg, through June 30. 766 E. 13th St.

Springfield City Hall "Squished in a Square," youth art of Springfield show; four murals by Springfield elementary school children to honor *Daphnis and Chloe* Festival, through May 31. 225 5th St.

Wandering Goat "Gone Tomorrow," photography by James Horn, through May 29. 7am-11pm M-F, 9am-11pm Sa, 9am-9pm Su. 268 Madison.

WestTown on 8th Paintings by James Schauer and Shelly Fredenberg, through May 31. 265 W. 8th Ave.

White Lotus Gallery Landscape paintings by Jon Jay Cruson, through June 3. 10am-5:30pm Tu-Sa. 767 Willamette.

WOW Hall Work by Finley, through May 31. Noon-6pm M-F. WOW Hall, 291 W. 8th.

The Body, Deconstructed

MFA show glories in sculpture and humanity

Insides out. That's an overarching theme — not that one is expected in a show with such variety — of "OPEN/END," the 2008 MFA show at the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art.

Or sometimes, outsides in, as in Jaylene Arnold's *Hibernatal*, a series of four soft, fuzzy biomorphic Schmoo-like shapes on the floor that each feature a small round opening, a black tunnel leading to a slightly off-the-frame video loop. Viewers should squat or kneel on the floor and look at the short, unexplained loops of women and girls while listening to soft music coming from each piece. The tunnels have an obvious vaginal reference, and the images hidden inside have an allusive Nancy Friday *Secret Garden* quality — what's going on with our complex interiors while the exterior looks meek and cute?

Ask Jane Snar, maybe. Her Eva-Hesse-like *Disparities and Deformations* drapes itself dramatically across one large corner of the exhibit space. The work combines globby corporeal masses and gigantic blood vessels, not in a fully literal manner but with enough clarity that the Seuss-like stalks and colors should be decodable. Though by "decodable" I do *not* mean immediately understandable: After all, the interior of the human body, with its weird shapes, smells, textures, drips, goo and gore, holds many

a mystery. The artist says, "This scenario is at first glance alluring, but reveals the grotesque upon intimate inspection." I think the opposite: At first glance, the work looks rather disgusting, but with more time and much more viewing, *Disparities and Deformations* reveals the tender threads holding together our vulnerable selves.

Metalsmith Karrie Harbart focuses on the interior as well, the bumpy, lumpen shapes and colors of guts in *Psychosomatatype*. Some of the shapes literally resemble intestines while others look like unchecked tumors or warts flowering on top of each other. Though Harbart has much experience in the arena of jewelry, she obviously wants to explore the ugly, the deformed, the seemingly gross. Approaching the pieces of the artwork means thinking about growths, moles, all of the skin's imperfections as well as what's moving through the turned and complex length of our digestive tracts. "In my work, I wish to explore the unacceptable/unwanted," Harbart writes in her artist's statement, and indeed she investigates that which most humans would prefer not to think about.

On the wall, Chang-Ae Song's *MASS: The Clod and Cloud* explores human bodies in a very different context. From afar, the long paper works appear somewhat conventional if powerful in their composition and beauty. But a closer look at the graphite pencil/acrylic

paint/photocopy collage shows fragmentary human bodies forming the very "clouds" that looked so calm from across the room. Song's sketched, skillful rendition of human musculature inevitably refers to Renaissance masters like da Vinci and Michelangelo while leaping to concerns of the present — Song writes that images of torture at Abu Ghraib inspired the *MASS* series. The images, drawn and copied and collaged, mask and also mark the body's strength and pain.

Speaking of strength and pain, several other works address physical and emotional strains. Ty Warren's *Aufhebung* (a word which expresses Hegelian tension between preservation and alteration, and which also refers to the lifting of restrictions) combines a projected photo with a video. The video loop, in which Warren performs push-ups until she passes out (though we never see her, only the floor approaching and receding), gets much of its power from the repeated grunts played over the sound system. This is a body being

pushed to its limits. Rani Robinson's *Inside* slyly investigates hands, faces, the intimate meanings of rings and letters and love (between partners? Between a parent and a child?) through video and photography. The unspoken connections leave a liminal space for the viewer to fill in — something about desire, nostalgia, longing, connection ... that's what comes from *Inside*.

The other six artists in the group present compelling visions as well, from Joshua Jalbert's gorgeously framed variations on natural themes to Johnnie Mazzocco's stills from her film *Found Objects* to Shelley Socolofsky's Beuys-like *Piecework* with its references to weaving, labor and women's lives.

But the show belongs to the body, the inside, the outside, the tests and challenges of remaining in this fleshly form. **EW**

"OPEN/END" stays up at the J-Schnitz through June 15. More info online at jsma.uoregon.edu or 346-3027.



Psychosomatatype, by Karrie Harbart

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movies

BY MOLLY TEMPLETON



The Pevensie kids flank Prince Caspian

I Want to Believe

Narnia still isn't quite magical enough

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: PRINCE CASPIAN: Directed by Andrew Adamson. Written by Adamson, Christopher Markus and Stephen McFeely, based on the book by C.S. Lewis. Cinematography, Karl Walter Lindenlaub. Music, Harry Gregson-Williams. Starring Ben Barnes, Georgie Henley, Skandar Keynes, William Moseley, Anna Popplewell, Sergio Castellitto, Peter Dinklage and Warwick Davis. Walt Disney Pictures, 2008. PG. 144 minutes. ★★☆☆☆

Oh, Narnia. I would like to think that, like the Harry Potter series, the Narnia films will find their footing with the third movie, the imaginative, exciting *Voyage of the Dawn Treader*. But I'm not holding my breath — though, to be fair, the dull second Harry Potter film gave no sign of the smart sequel to come.

Narnia, though, is a different sort of imaginary world. C.S. Lewis left much up to his readers' imaginations, leaning on a sort of quaint Britishness that infused his pages with the feeling that an old uncle was telling the story. Unlike, say, J.R.R. Tolkien's Middle-Earth, Lewis' Narnia hasn't spawned calendars and posters and other endless artistic renderings. And so it is that all of us who fell in love with Narnia as children have entirely different versions of it in our heads.

Mine, alas, is not so storybook as that of director Andrew Adamson. When his Pevensie siblings — bossy, touchy Peter (William Moseley); pragmatic Susan (Anna Popplewell); clever Edmund (Skandar Keynes) and wide-eyed Lucy (Georgie Henley) — find themselves back in Narnia, where 1,300 years have passed during one year in their world, they immediately garb themselves in colorful Narnian clothing that makes them look more like they're playing dress-up than like the kings and queens of Narnia they are. Why are they back? Someone summoned the former monarchs with Susan's magical horn to save the land from the Telmarines, who took over some time ago. That someone was pretty Prince Caspian (Ben Barnes). There's not much to our noble prince, who butts heads with Peter about who's got better ideas (and occasionally exchanges a meaningful and out of place glance with Susan).

Adamson does better with scenery and with the various creatures of Narnia than he does with humans, and much of *Prince*

Caspian is full of glorious visions of trees and castles, gorgeous forest glades, tiny badger dens, massive centaurs and sylvan beings. (New Zealand, among other locations, once again offers itself up as a truly magical place.) The book from which the film was adapted is a funny little thing that involves a good deal of storytelling (the Pevensies are caught up on Narnian history by the surly dwarf Trumpkin, smartly played by Peter Dinklage) and quite a bit of trekking through the woods. It's the kind of book that needs some gussying up for film, to a point. But this point has been well and crossed by the time we get to our second epic battle against the Telmarines (notably swarthier than the Pevensies; I couldn't help but wonder if the filmmakers gave us centaurs of color in a conscious effort to counteract their depiction of the bad guys as darker-featured).

The first major battle, a brazen assault on the castle of the usurper Lord Miraz (Sergio Casetellitto), begins wonderfully but becomes a sour, heavy-handed yet hollow lesson in how Peter mustn't try to do things without faith (in Aslan, of course, the massive lion still voiced by Liam Neeson as a feline Jedi knight). A chilly cameo from Tilda Swinton aside, from here on out our

Prince Caspian is full of glorious scenery and charming Narnian creatures.

heroes alternately develop unexpected talents for military strategy and spend too much time standing still and looking around a battlefield (our heroines are busy finding Aslan and, in Susan's case, occasionally displaying awesome archery skills, though the movie still requires her to be rescued at least once). There's little tension in any of the battles as the outcome is always clear and any meaningful losses can be dealt with via Lucy's magical elixir. But if there's no tension, there must be magic. This vision of Narnia, with its subtle use of Lewis' Christian themes carefully packaged so as not to limit its audience, somehow makes the magical land almost mundane, too safe, too simple. But all the same, I'll set sail with the *Dawn Treader* when it comes. **EW**

OPENING OR RETURNING:
Archaeology Channel International Film and Video Festival: The fifth annual festival changes venues this year, moving to the Hult with its lineup of films from around the world that exhibit “the wonderful diversity of human cultures past and present.” Films include *Pocahontas Revealed* and *Hidden Worlds: Underground Rome*, among many others. Through May 24, Hult Center. See full schedule at www.archaeologychannel.org
Bank Job, The: Jason Statham (*The Transporter*) and Saffron Burrows star in this film based on the 1971 robbery at Lloyds Bank in London. To the thieves’ surprise, the box they steal has more than just cash in it. “Shapes up as one of the liveliest entertainments of the year,” said Andrew Sarris in *The New York Observer*. R. 110 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (3/27)
College Road Trip: Martin Lawrence plays the overbearing father of a girl (Raven-Symone) who insists on coming along on her college-visiting road trip. I think quirky situations and wacky hijinks may ensue! G. Movies 12.
Dire Straights: A performance from German TV in 1979 and a 1980 French documentary make up this In-Concert Series screening. Bijou LateNite.
Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull: It’s the only mainstream movie opening this weekend! It’s got Harrison Ford and Cate Blanchett and Shia LeBoeuf and sassy *Raiders of the Lost Ark* dame Karen Allen! Also, it takes place 19 years after the underrated third film in a world facing the possibility of nuclear annihilation. That’s about all I’ve got. That and a big plastic Indy whip. PG13. 124 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Little Brother, Big Pharma: The Eugene premiere of a documentary about the current treatment for people diagnosed with mental illness, featuring one family’s story and commentary from doctors, authors, mental health workers and others. 1 pm May 25, Bijou. \$5.
Queer Film Festival: This free festival continues with *Itty Bitty Titty Committee*, about a recently dumped woman who meets the sassy leader of a radical punk-feminist group. 11:50 pm May 23, Bijou. Free.
Ruins, The: The ruins are alive ... with creepy plant life. At least that’s what it looks like in previews for this horror flick, adapted by Scott B. Smith from his own novel. Two reasons to see this, really: Shawn Ashmore (Iceman in the X-Men movies) and Jena Malone, who deserves better roles (doesn’t anyone remember *Saved!*?). R. 97 min. Movies 12.

Superhero Movie: The *Scary Movie* send-uppers turn their attention to spandex-clad superheroes. PG13. 85 min. Movies 12.
Twenty-one: An unconventional math professor (Kevin Spacey) recruits his brightest students (among them Kate Bosworth and Jim Sturgess) to count cards in Vegas, leading to tuition money for them and, one assumes, mad loot for the boss. Until things get complicated. PG13. 123 min. Movies 12.
Films open the Friday following EW publication date unless otherwise noted. See archived reviews at www.eugeneweekly.com
CONTINUING:
Baby Mama: When successful businesswoman Kate (Tiny Fey) finds that she can’t conceive the kid she wants, she hires Angie (Amy Poehler) as her surrogate. It’s a clash of personalities and more when Angie shows up on Kate’s doorstep. “An essentially sweet-natured picture that doesn’t go as far as it could,” says Salon.com. PG13. 96 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Chronicles of Narnia, The: Prince Caspian: When the Pevensie children find themselves back in Narnia, it’s just a year later for them – and 1300 years later for the magical land, now under the control of an evil foreigner. Lucy, Susan, Peter and Edmund (with help, of course) must help get the true king back on Narnia’s throne. PG. 144 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. **See review this issue.**
Drillbit Taylor: When three high school kids get sick of being picked on, they hire Drillbit Taylor (Owen Wilson), who pretends to be a teacher in order to keep an eye on his young clients. There’s brand-name talent behind the scenes (Judd Apatow, Seth Rogen) but the reviewers weren’t charmed. PG13. 102 min. Movies 12.
Fool’s Gold: Fools’ choices? Kate Hudson and Matthew McConaughey play a divorced couple who reteam to bicker endlessly – and search for a sunken treasure. Totally sure they stay divorced in the end, too. PG13. Movies 12.
Forbidden Kingdom: When an American teenager finds a lost relic of the legendary Monkey King, he also finds himself sent back in time to join a band of warriors fighting to free said king. The important bits? Jackie Chan and Jet Li costar, and Wo Ping (*Crouching Tiger; The Matrix*) handles the fight sequences. Awesome. PG13. Cinemark.
Forgetting Sarah Marshall: The Apatow Onslaught

continues with this romantic comedy about a guy (Jason Segel, who also wrote the screenplay) who tries get away from it all after his famous girlfriend (the fantabulous Kristen Bell) dumps him – only to find that she, and her strange new boyfriend, are at the same Hawaiian resort. With Mila Kunis, Jonah Hill, Paul Rudd and a lot of other funny people. R. 112 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. ★★☆☆☆ (4/24)
Horton Hears a Who: The Dr. Seuss classic gets the animated treatment from the creators of *Ice Age*, with Jim Carrey as Horton and Steve Carell as the mayor of Who-ville, the tiny world on a speck that Horton discovers and defends from his fellow animals, who think he’s gone nuts. G. 110 min. Movies 12.
Iron Man: The first major summer flick (summer? Huh?) stars Robert Downy Jr. as Tony Stark, a wealthy industrialist who devises a suit that gives him the superheroic ability to take down baddies who misuse his destructive technology. Awesome. With Jeff Bridges, Terrence Howard and Gwyneth Paltrow. PG13. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. ★★☆☆☆ (5/8)
Jumper: Adapted from a novel by Steven Gould, this film follows “jumpers” who can leap through space and time. Among these lucky few are Hayden Christensen and Jamie Bell; Samuel L. Jackson provides the tension as a fella who doesn’t approve of these crazy hijinks. Directed by Doug Liman (*The Bourne Identity*). PG13. 88 min. Movies 12.
Leatherheads: George Clooney directs and stars in this romantic comedy set in the 1920s against the start of the pro football league. With Jon Krazinski (*The Office*) as a golden-boy quarterback and Renee Zellweger as the reporter determined to prove he’s not as perfect as he seems. PG13. 113 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (4/10)
Made of Honor: This sliver of nonsense seems deliberately scheduled opposite *Iron Man*, as if some moron imagined it were a palatable “chick flick” option. Nice going, universe. Even Dr. McDreamy, Patrick Dempsey, as the guy who figures out too late that he’s in love with his best friend (Michelle Monaghan) isn’t enough to make this look anything but embarrassing. PG13. 101 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Nim’s Island: Moppet-of-the-moment Abigail Breslin stars as Nim, a girl who lives with her scientist father (Gerard Butler) on an island and has a literary heroine whose life is rather similar. When Nim’s father disappears, life brings Nim and

her favorite author together to find him. With Jodie Foster. PG. 95 min. Cinemark.
Speed Racer: Here it comes, here comes ... the Wachowski Brothers’ color-saturated, whiz-bang take on the oddball Japanese cartoon that some of us never understood when we were children. Emile Hirsch stars as Mach 5 racer Speed; Matthew Fox (as baddie Racer X), John Goodman, Christina Ricci and Susan Sarandon round out the cast. PG. 129 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Super High Me: Comedian Doug Benson, inspired by *Super Size Me*, decides to go without pot for a month – then spend an entire month high as a kite and see what effects the endless inhaling has on his body and mental state. The film mixes Benson’s experiment with his stand-up routine and a bit of history about California’s drug laws; it’s all a bit muddled, but it’s also relatively funny. Bijou LateNite. ★★☆☆☆ (5/1)
Ten Thousand B.C.: Director Roland Emmerich (*Independence Day*) directs a set-ages-ago story about a young hunter and the lovely woman he’ll stop at nothing to save from “mysterious warlords.” Other key phrases from the studio’s synopsis include “ultimate fate,” “tyrannical god” and “empire beyond imagination.” PG13. 109 min. Movies 12.
Visitor, The: A disillusioned professor who finds two young people living in his unused apartment allows them to stay and finds, slowly, that he’s growing close to them – until one is arrested as an undocumented citizen. “This is a film of our times – paranoid, heartbroken, disillusioned,” said *The Boston Globe*’s Wesley Morris. PG13. 103 min. Bijou. ★★☆☆☆ (5/15)
What Happens in Vegas: Cameron Diaz and Ashton Kutcher star as a couple that gets rather spontaneously wed in Vegas, then realizes they hate each other – only to wind up stuck together when he puts her quarter in a slot machine and hits the jackpot. PG13. 99 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Young@Heart: This BBC-funded documentary follows the Young@Heart Chorus as they prepare for a performance in their hometown of Northampton, Mass., working on songs you might not expect a group of octogenarians to perform and dealing with the issues that arise for people of a certain age. “*Young@Heart* is a heartening and poignant affirmation of the transformative power of music,” said *USA Today*. PG. 107 min. Bijou. ★★☆☆☆ (5/15)



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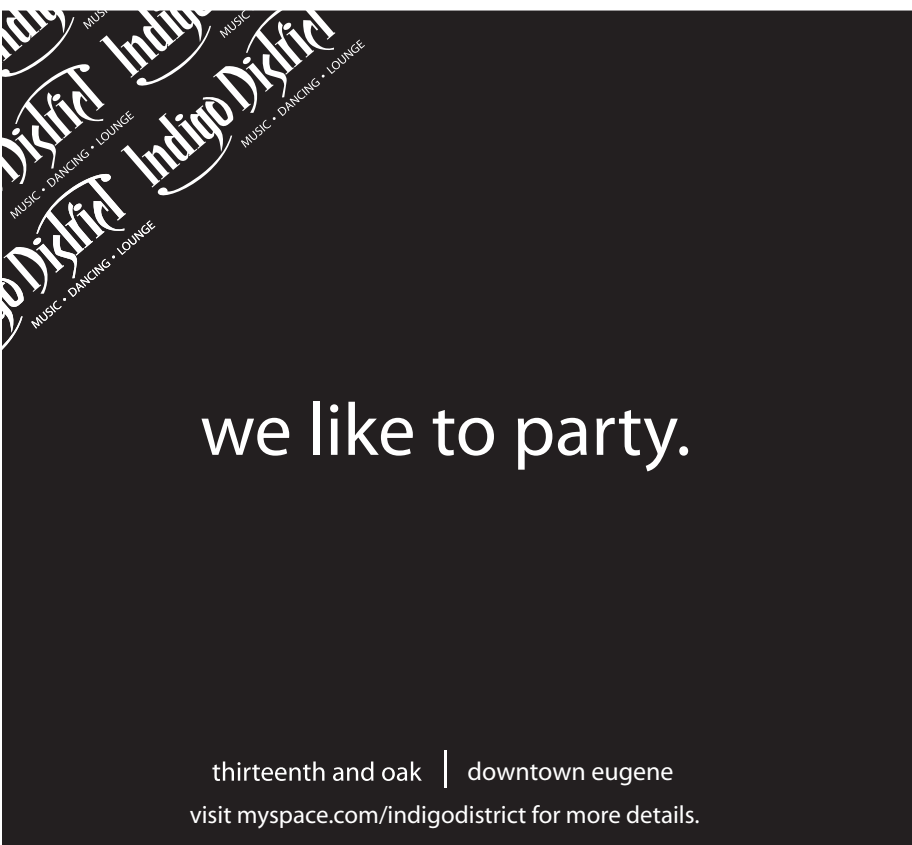
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Rhymes With 'Very'

Mare Wakefield returns to Eugene with new CD

Mare Wakefield and her husband and musical companion, Nomad Ovunc, visited Eugene last September as Wakefield was celebrating the release of her children's album, *Daddy's Moonlight Alligator Boat Ride*. They're back on the West Coast, this time supporting Wakefield's fourth (non-children's) CD, *Ironwood*.

While Wakefield has stayed true to her folk roots, it's clear that after she left Eugene in 2001 for Boston's Berklee School of Music and relocated to Nashville, country rhythms started to seep in to her writing. *Ironwood's* second track, "Enough Bad Love," reveals Wakefield singing in her most twangy voice ever; it's just a touch removed from a radio-ready country hit. Wakefield performed it as a "poor me victim" song many times before scrapping the chorus completely, reworking the verses and tempo and crafting it into a song that says, "I'm not gonna take it anymore."

"It felt really good to get that statement out in the world," says Wakefield. "There's definitely a time when everyone has to go through that and just says, 'I'm done being mistreated.'"

While "Enough Bad Love" has more country rollick than Wakefield's past tunes, *Ironwood* showcases plenty of folk and pop — and Wakefield's beautiful voice, which always sounds happy and hopeful regardless of the serious subject matter.

Unbeknownst to her at the time she named

her CD, there is an Ironwood National Forest in Arizona which has a reserve of ironwood trees. Wakefield discovered the reserve when she arrived in Tucson this year after an epic drive through Texas. The town was holding its annual Ironwood Festival, a synchronicity that gave Wakefield's choice of the name a deeper significance. Also, she says, ironwood is "beautiful, enduring and organic," which aptly describes Wakefield's music.

"It's organic because it's still guitar, voice, live instruments, it's not glossy or fancy," says Wakefield. *Ironwood* is still raw and folky, but there's also a lot of strength — perhaps more than ever. "Poor me" songs have their place, Wakefield says, "but this time I wanted to be stronger and less of a victim, more in charge."

"Dreams Come True" is a hushed, lulling song that stands in contrast to most of Wakefield's other work. Live, it's performed with Ovunc playing bass and Wakefield singing, with no guitar or other accompaniment. "It's a really amazing thing," she says, "and no matter what kind of venue we're in, everyone gets really quiet and they just listen to the song, and it casts a spell on people."

The final song, "Peg and Awl," is a traditional folk tune for which they did a new arrangement, reconstructing it into a lovely, dusty tune worthy of Gillian Welch.

Wakefield will tour for a month, have 10 days at home in Nashville and then head with Ovunc to Holland and Germany for a month-long tour. **EW**



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Boy Wonder of Blues

Feeling over flash

It seems like every few years, a fresh-faced wunderkind struts onto the blues scene to inject a bit of Botox into the wrinkled genre. The guitar chops and husky voice sound far beyond the kid's years, and the next thing you know, the Doogie Howser of blues is holding his own on stage with the greats and bottlenecking his way onto the radio charts. The '90s had teenage blues sensations Kenny Wayne Shepherd and Jonny Lang while the aughts have Oregon's own David Jacobs-Strain. Differences abound between Jacobs-Strain and his blues prodigy predecessors, though: He is rooted in Delta blues compared to Shepherd and Lang's more commercial Texas/Louisiana style. He isn't as technical or solo-inclined as his counterparts, either. But the blues is about feeling, not flash, and unlike the other boy wonders, Jacobs-Strain has substance to go with his style.

The 24-year-old Jacobs-Strain first performed his slide-guitar blues at the Oregon Country Fair at age 11. While still in high school, he released his first solo album and became a faculty member at the Port Townsend Country Blues Workshop. By the time he finished his book learning at Stanford University in 2006, he had released two more albums and had played the Newport Folk Festival, the Telluride Blues Fest, MerleFest and the Montreal Jazz Festival. He says that he's always been drawn to Delta blues — the raw, distraught, spiritually deep sound of Robert Johnson, Fred McDowell and Son House. "For me, there's something about rural blues that has a transcendent quality, a wide open sound," he says. "Think of the rhythm of a train."

On his latest album, *Liar's Day*, Jacobs-Strain taps into that locomotive rhythm, that expansive rolling sound. On the



David Jacobs-Strain CD release
9 pm Friday, May 23
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McDowell tune "Write Me a Few Short Lines," he thunders and slides up and down his National steel guitar, puffing out coal-black phrases and picking up momentum along the way. Backed by Joe Vitale and Kenny Passarelli (Joe Walsh's rhythm section in the '70s), he manages to sound both raucous and subdued, creating a restless disturbance with subtlety and grace. On the subterranean rumble "Old Tennis Shoes," Jacobs-Strain sings like a man three times his age. He laments, "I don't want to go home / You can leave me here / On the side of the road / Just leave me here." But he doesn't come off as completely hopeless or fatalistic. There's a whiff of possibility in his dusty voice — a voice that at times sounds youthful but understands that just being young is enough to give anybody the blues. **EW**

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Explosive Beats

Contemporary electronic music is less about creepy moaning and a series of long, drawn-out beeping noises and more about incorporating a beat – or, in the case of the Portland-based **Bombs Into You**, incorporating an indie rock synthesized beat.

A combination of electro savvy sounds on one track and raw, organic mixes and catchy chorus lines on another makes Bombs' fanbase reach far and wide. They aren't so computer nerdy that it turns off the rock crowd or so mainstream that indie fans can't relate.

Appreciative of their loyal fans, the band found a way to give back by launching The Remix Movement, which gave anyone an opportunity to download and remix the band's track "Move Me." Fans delved into their creative psyches and produced mixes that fused techno and pop with the original track, and the best mixes were posted on the band's website and will be on their new CD coming out this summer.

As good as it sounds blaring out of my laptop, Bombs Into You's music is best heard live. I picture them playing in a darkly lit club where everyone would be smoking (if Eugene didn't have that fabulous no smoking in bars law), and androgynous men and women would be standing around, understanding and appreciating in a way that someone like myself cannot the process it takes to create this raw, organic sound. A place, perhaps, like Diablo's. Bombs Into You plays with Dr. Moss at 10 pm Friday, May 23, at Diablo's Downtown Lounge. 21+ show. \$6. – *Deanna Uutela*

Teenage Tunes

Has it been a while since you got your last booster shot? Forget the measles and mumps; you can get the latest dose of medicinal music at the **Kidz Rock Booster Shot**. The event is a one-night series of performances by young local musicians.

Kidz Rock aims to celebrate the future of Eugene's music scene. The Kidz Rock Concert Series started in April of last year and has come to be known as "the largest youth-friendly concert series in the Pacific Northwest." Last year there was a full month of concerts, but this year it has been boiled down to one night of young music featuring Oak Street Jazz Band, Man Down, Employees of the Month and more. The show starts at 6 pm Friday, May 23, at Cozmic Pizza. \$6; ages six and under free. – *Megan Udow*

We Like to Party

Think music for an epic '80s movie montage scene. Now think large orange-and-black-striped wild feline. If your thought process went the way it should, Jess

Andrews, Nick Thomas-Low, Chris Buehler and Miles Davenport, aka **The Party Tigers**, are dancing through your mind.

The retro-pop foursome began when Andrews (drums) and Thomas-Low (keyboards) decided to start recording as a duo. Thomas-Low, originally a guitarist, told the *Oregon Daily Emerald* that he was bored with the guitar and had a keyboard that he never played, so he and Andrews started writing music for fun.

With the addition of Buehler on bass and Davenport on guitar, the mood didn't change, but the boys became a full band. With wailing guitar riffs and spacey keys harmonizing over fast drumbeats and steady bass, the Eugene-based Tigers can make anyone roar ... or at least dance.

Although they are not signed to a label and have only one EP under their belt, The Party Tigers have a loyal local fan base. Buehler told the *Emerald* earlier this year that there are a good 25 people who come to every show, which isn't bad for an unsigned local band. These fans can often be seen in the front row dancing with sweat dripping down their faces, sometimes sporting tiger masks and homemade T-shirts.

The Party Tigers love this sort of intimacy, and for that, they say they would almost prefer house shows to bars. At a house show, it's more of a dance party. Everyone interacts. That makes it fun, and The Party Tigers are clearly all about having a good time. The Party Tigers, The Underlings and Right Left Grand play a benefit for Womenspace at 10 pm Friday, May 23, at Luckey's. 21+ show. \$5. – *Katrina Nattress*



Genre Unspecific

The group that started as a bedroom hip hop project has rapidly ascended to a full-fledged band that has no genre. "We take from our favorite aspects of different genres," says JoJo Ferreira, the vocalist and guitar player of Eugene's **Medium Troy**. "We took the songwriting from folk, strong drums and bass from hip hop, the dub tradition from reggae and the energy of rock and roll."

This all-encompassing style has helped the band's ever-growing fan base and has led them to receive awards such as the WOW Hall's "Favorite Local Band" in 2007. Shortly after winning the award, the band embarked on its first West Coast tour. During a show in L.A., the self-described bohemian dub hop band was propositioned by Kevin Lyman, founder of the Vans Warped tour, to play dates in Idaho, Washington, Oregon and possibly California for the festival. "We are stoked," says Ferreira. "[Warped Tour] is what we've been wanting to do. It just happened quicker than we expected."

The band is currently working on its second album, which Ferreira hopes to release in the fall. After they release the second album, Ferreira hopes to create an interactive online album that incorporates artists from around the world. "We want to change the face of music for the better," says Ferreira, "and we want to put Eugene on the map." Medium Troy plays with Alliance, Knox, Efekt and Girl Meets Gravity at 8:30 pm Saturday, May 24, at the WOW Hall. Free. – *Katrina Nattress*

Noisy, Catchy Basement Sing-Alongs

There are plenty of lo-fi duos that hipsters tout as the best thing to happen to punk rock since The Clash, but few are as deserving of the praise as **Japanther**. Sure, there's plenty of pretentious artifice: The band has played in museums and next to an indoor pool, both members sing into modified payphone receivers and the bass player uses a cheap Casio keyboard, but the music more than makes up for the obvious affectations. Their noisy riffs and energetic sing-song choruses demand inebriated sing-alongs and pseudo-dancing body spazz-outs.

In true hipster fashion, here's the requisite musical comparison: Japanther sounds like the members of Death From

Above 1979 were forced to listen to nothing but a combination of Lightning Bolt, The Ramones and The Boredoms for a month straight while sniffing enough glue for an entire year of third grade art class.

A less pretentious though no less accurate description includes the band's sloppy bass riffs, simple keyboard melodies, slapstick sound samples and constant drumming. Japanther remind us that catchy songs don't need slick production and sometimes benefit from distorted tape and static. There's only one thing you need to know about the lyrics: The band was formed in 2001 by a pair of college students from Brooklyn. That about covers it. There's a ballad on Japanther's newest album, *Skuffed Up My Huffy*, about River Phoenix – I wonder how old they were when he died. Japanther and The Pharmacy play at 8 pm Tuesday, May 27, at Shady Pines. – *Nick DeMarino*

Spies Like Them

Watching the video for the **International Espionage!** song "Cat Shadow" gives me the same feeling I get when the Beastie Boys' "Sabotage" video makes a rare appearance on MTV. It's action packed, stylish and hilariously tongue in cheek. Come to think of it, that's not a bad description for the band's music. Hailing from chilly Minneapolis, International Espionage! is a group steeped in shtick, too wrapped up in undercover assignments, government conspiracies and ninja costumes to worry about the oh-so-ordinary world of a boring hipster band existence's. They're on a mission ... literally. Agent Number 6 (Tim Holly), Agent Sureshot (Aaron Sapp) and Agent X-9 (Aaron Lemay) have pooled their creativity, musical and otherwise, to invent a new wave pop sound that delivers hard riffs with a dash of theatrics and a whopping side of humor.



The sparse, percussive style International Espionage! cultivates is layered on top of synthesized backing tracks during their live shows, blending a punk rock vibe with electronic elements not dissimilar to the sounds of former local favorite DoublePlusGood. "Phone Phreaks" (one of the tracks on the band's newest EP) starts out with a ridiculously catchy 10-note progression, then blasts into a quick and dirty little number that feels like it could be the soundtrack to a really great video game car chase (insert your favorite urban-assault gaming reference here). This is typical of International Espionage! songs; they all seem like they should have some accompanying high-stakes action sequence attached to them. And that's kind of the point: In the world of IE! we're all James Bond or – even cooler – the bad guys who always manage to get away. International Espionage! plays at 10 pm Wednesday, May 28, at Luckey's. 21+ show. \$3-\$5. – *Adrienne van der Valk*

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THE ASTORIA Texas Hold 'Em-7
AXE & FIDDLE Ten Foot Pole Cats, Souther-8; Blues
THE CITY DJ Simy-10; 80s, techno, reggae
THE COOLER Karaoke-9:30
COUNTRYSIDE Gaye Lee Russell & Random Blues Band-9
COZMIC PIZZA Basil Rathbone, Busket-8; Jazz, rock
DAVIS' Gaia Tribe-11; House, electronica
DIABLO'S DJ The Fist, DJ Ceez-10; Old school vs. new school
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE The T Club-10; Rock
DUCK INN Ben Coleman's Karaoke-9
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Computer Karaoke-7
FOUR CORNERS HOPHOUSE Open jam-7
GOODFELLAS Johnny Wilde Band-9:30
HAPPY HOURS Karaoke-8:30
JO FEDERIGO'S Dave O'Toole, Mike Hanns, Paul Slate-9; Jazz jam
JOGGER'S DJ Tino-10; Hip hop, R&B, dancehall
JOHN HENRY'S 80s Night w/Chris, Jen and John-10
LATITUDE 21 Zelly Rock, DJ Marko, The Escort Service-10; Roots reggae
LUCKEY'S E3po, Strange Language-10; Funk, rock
MACENZIS' TOO Karaoke-7
MAC'S AT THE VET'S CLUB Open Mic-8:30
MOHAWK TAVERN Karaoke-9
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Karaoke-9
O'DONNELL'S IRISH PUB Karaoke-9
THE OLD PAD Karaoke-9



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OVERTIME GRILL West Side Blues Jam-8
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Eric Richardson hosts Jazz Night-8
SAM BOND'S Mario Matteoli, Concrete Love-9; Variety
SAMURAI DUCK Perpetual Conversion, Roanoke, Leech-9; Doom
SPIRITS Mr. Wizard's Jam Night-9
TAP 'N' KEG Rising Phoenix-9; Hip hop
TAYLOR'S DJ Red Fox-10; hip hop
TERRITORIAL VINEYARDS Tomo, Jeff & Sam-7; Smooth funk
VILLAGE GREEN Karaoke-7
WANDERING GOAT You Bet Your Ass!-8; Game show. Fred Van Vactor-9; Humor
WORLD FLAVORS Grateful Dead DVDs-9

FRIDAY MAY 23

AXE & FIDDLE Jessie Marquez & Mike Denny Group-8:30; Cuban
BEANERY Steve Mockli-7
BUGS'S The Valley Boys-8; Classic rock
THE CITY DJ Simy-10; Hip hop revolution, top 40
CLUB 420 Karaoke-9
COZMIC PIZZA Kidz Rock Booster Shot-6
DIABLO'S DJ Supa J-10; All-request
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Cairo Nights Belly Dance-8. Dr. Moss, Bombs Into You-10; Alt-rock, instrumental
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Christie & McCallum-8:30; Honky-tonk, rock
ELDORADO Karaoke-9
EL JARRO AZUL Jessie Marquez & Mike Denny-7
EUGENE CITY BREWERY Mr. Bill's Trivia Show-8
FOUR CORNERS HOPHOUSE Normal Bean-8
GOODFELLAS Gaye Lee Russell & Random Blues Band-9
JAZZ STATION Andrew Rowan Group, Any Permutation-8
JO FEDERIGO'S Jessica Parsons-Taylor-6:30. Inner Limits-9:30
JOGGER'S Club Motion w/DJ Ty-9:30; Hip hop, R&B & more
KOHO BISTRO The Don Latarski Duo-9; Jazz standards, Americana
LATITUDE 21 Da Real Thing w/Brimstone Sounds-10; Reggae, dancehall, hip hop
LAVELLES Gus Russell-5:30; Jazz piano
LUCKEY'S The Underlings, The Party Tigers, Right Left Grand-10; Pop, rock
MACENZIS' TOO DJ Philly-9

MAC'S AT THE VET'S CLUB The Vipers w/ Mofessor-9:30; Blues
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Basin & Range, Loop Whole-9; Funk, hip hop
THE O BAR Karaoke-9
O'DONNELL'S IRISH PUB Karaoke-9
OK TAVERN Luna's Karaoke Show-9
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Al Rivers w/ Papa Soul-8; Blues
PEABODY'S PUB Karaoke-9
QUACKER'S Karaoke-9
RAVEN A PUB Karaoke-9
ROCK 'N' RODEO DJs Jon Michaels & Rob Reynolds-7:30; Country, rock, top 40
SAM BOND'S David Jacobs-Strain-9; Blues
SAM'S PLACE Karaoke-8
SAMURAI DUCK Heathen Shrine, Dire Wolf, Grimminir-9; Black metal
SPIRITS Greg Glass Project-9; Rock
TAYLOR'S DJ Prestine-10
TINY TAVERN Earthquake Retrofit, I.N.R.I.-9; Experimental music
TOM'S TAPPER Karaoke-9
WANDERING GOAT Salt Lick-8; Alt-country
WORLD FLAVORS Parallel Minds-8; Hip hop, rap. Blues Jam-10
WOW HALL Greenlander, Volifonix, Cellar Door, The Campaign, Blast Majesty-8; Rock

SATURDAY MAY 24

AXE & FIDDLE Cicada Omega, Used Log Truck-8:30; Blues, trance, alt
BEANERY Eagle Park Slim-7
BEL AMI LOUNGE Marieke Schuurs & Gus Russell-9:30; Jazz
BLACK FOREST The Slants-9; Dance rock
BUGS'S The Valley Boys-8; Classic rock
THE CITY DJ Redd Fox-10; Top 40, hip hop, 80s/90s
CLUB 420 Karaoke-9
CLUB SNAFU Freaks Dance Party w/Audio Schizophrenic-9; Electro-mash
COZMIC PIZZA Salsa Performance-8:30
DAVIS' DJ Pristine-11; Reggae, hip hop
DIABLO'S DJ Supa J-10
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Comedy Workout-8; Stand-up comedy. The Brainwashers, 1,000 1,000-10; Indie rock
DUCK INN Ben Coleman's Karaoke-9
ELDORADO Karaoke-9
GALLERY OBSCURA Trufflehunter, Superdream, Last Trains-9; CD release
GOODFELLAS Gaye Lee Russell & Random Blues Band-9

THE BERG SANS NIPPLE PLAYS CLOUD 9 THURSDAY



HAPPY HOURS The Divers-9
INDIGO DISTRICT DJ Hoop Dreams-10; Hip hop, electro
JO FEDERIGO'S Gary Christiansen-6:30. Jessie Marquez & Mike Denny Group-9:30
JOGGER'S Club Motion w/ VJ Ty-9:30; Hip hop, R&B & more
THE KEG Disco dance-9
KOHO BISTRO Jackie Jae & Jason Cowsill-9; Acoustic folk rock
LAVELLES Gus Russell-5:30; Jazz piano
LUCKEY'S The Slants, Leo London, Denelian-10; Pop, rock, dance, hardcore
MACENZIS' TOO DJ Philly-9
MAC'S AT THE VET'S CLUB J.C. Rico & Zulu Dragon-9:30; Rock 'n' blues
MOHAWK TAVERN Karaoke-9
MONROE ST. CAFE Fractal Effect-6; Acoustic
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Parade of Storms, Quandry, Tullis, Circa Vitae-9; Rock, metal
O'DONNELL'S IRISH PUB Karaoke-9
PEABODY'S PUB Karaoke-9
THE POUR HOUSE Karaoke-9
QUACKERS Johnson Unit-9; Rock
RAVEN A PUB Karaoke-9
ROCK 'N' RODEO DJ Rob Reynolds-7:30; Country, rock, top 40
SAM BOND'S Jackstraw-9:30; Bluegrass
SPIRITS Greg Glass Project-9; Rock
TAYLOR'S DJ Simy-10; Hip hop
TOMMY'S B&G Karaoke-9
TOM'S TAPPER Karaoke-9
WANDERING GOAT Free Bananas-8; Acoustic

WINESTYLES Bajuana Tea-7
WORLD FLAVORS The T Club-9; Reggae
WOW HALL Medium Troy, The Alliance Crew, Girl Meets Gravity, Knox & Efekt, The Kid Espi-8:30; Hip hop, Bohemian dub hop

SUNDAY MAY 25

THE ASTORIA Texas Hold 'Em-7
COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke-9
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Karaoke-9
GOODFELLAS Johnny Wilde's Jamorama-9:30
JO FEDERIGO'S Mark Alan-8:30
JOHN HENRY'S Broadway Revue-10; Burlesque
LUCKEY'S Open Mic-8
MAX'S Steve Ibach-8
MONROE ST. CAFE Acoustic Jam-7
PEABODY'S PUB Open Mic-7
PRIME TIME Karaoke-8
RODEO STEAKHOUSE Family Karaoke-5
SAM BOND'S Irish jam-5. Mare Wakefield, Ter-ra-8:30; Americana
SAMURAI DUCK Cinder Circus-10; Fire show
TOM'S TAPPER Karaoke-5
VILLAGE GREEN Christopher Klein & Teresa Martindale-6:30

MONDAY MAY 26

THE ASTORIA Wii Bowling League-7
AXE & FIDDLE DJ Donald 5 Pennies-8; Old-school

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BLACK FOREST Karaoke-9
COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke-9
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Bingo-8
EARL'S JUKE JOINT "More than a blues jam"
w/Paul Biondi-7
GOODFELLAS Karaoke-7
JO FEDERIGO'S Open Mic-8
JOGGER'S Texas Hold'em-7
ROCK 'N' RODEO Texas Hold'em-6:30
SAM BOND'S Bingo w/Tom & Scott-9
SAMURAI DUCK Cinder Circus-9; Fire dancing
VILLARD ST. PUB Pub Trivia-8
WANDERING GOAT No Bunny, So Cow-8; Pop, punk

TUESDAY MAY 27

AXE & FIDDLE Open Mic-7
BLACK FOREST Rooster Blues Jam, hosted by Skip & Byron-8
BUGS'S Karaoke-8
THE CITY DJ Redd Fox-10; Top 40, hip hop, 80s/90s
COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke-9
COZMIC PIZZA Greg Oldson-9; Americana
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Open Mic-9
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Everybody's Jam w/James Goddard-7
GOODFELLAS Karaoke-7
HIGHLANDS PUB Bingo-6
JAZZ STATION Spirit of Jazz Jam-8
JOGGERS Karaoke-9
LATITUDE 21 DJ Tekneek-10; Hip hop
LUCKEY'S Jesse Meade, Sam Hahn-10; Rock, acoustic
MACENZI'S TOO Bingo-7
MACHO'S PIZZA Family-friendly Karaoke-7
MAX'S e. geek's Knowledge Knights-7:30
MCSHANE'S Tricycle Races-9

MONROE ST. CAFE Texas Hold'em-6
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Ninth Moon Black, Nanda Devi, Synapse Fire-9; Metal, ambient
THE O BAR Karaoke-9
PEABODY'S PUB Patrick & Giri-7:30; Acoustic rock
ROCK 'N' RODEO Texas Hold'em-6:30 iPod hip hop-9
SAM BOND'S Bluegrass jam-9
SAM'S PLACE Open Turntables-8
SHADY PINES Japanther-8
TABOO Phat Tuesday w/DJ Tekneek-10; Zydeco, Cajun, Creole
TAYLOR'S Karaoke-10
VILLAGE GREEN Jay Schlotterbeck-7; Jazz
WANDERING GOAT Scrabble-7:30; League night
WETLANDS Wii Bowling-6
WORLD FLAVORS Open Mic-7



TEN FOOT POLE CATS PLAY
AXE & FIDDLE THURSDAY

WEDNESDAY MAY 28

AXE & FIDDLE Game Night-7:30
BEL AMI LOUNGE Tim McLaughlin & Sean Peterson-8:30; Funky acid jazz
DAVIS' DJ Sunday Smith-10; Lounge, world beat
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE John Barley-6:30. Downtown Blues Band-8
EUGENE CITY BREWERY Bingo-7:30
GOODFELLAS Mr. Wizard-9:30
JAZZ STATION Bob Wehrman & Friends-8; Vocal jazz
JO FEDERIGO'S Open Mic-8
JOGGER'S DJ Tino-10; Hip hop, R&B, dancehall
JOHN HENRY'S DJ Kal El vs. DJ Tekneek-10; Reggae vs. hip hop
LATITUDE 21 Bate Estaca-10; Brazilian electronic project

LUCKEY'S International ESPIONAGE!-10; Rock, pop, New Wave
MACENZI'S TOO Texas Hold'em Tourney-7
MAC'S AT THE VET'S Irish session band-8:30
MONROE ST. CAFE Spoken Word open forum-7
MULLIGAN'S PUB Open mic-9
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Delta Blues Jam-9:30
THE POUR HOUSE Karaoke-9
QUACKERS Blues & Funk Jam-8:30
ROCK 'N' RODEO Karaoke-9
SAM BOND'S The Whiskey Spots, Valerie Lopez, Dan Miles-9; Acoustic
SAM'S PLACE Karaoke-8
SAMURAI DUCK Trigger Effect, Embrace the Kill, Desteria-9; Metal
TAP 'N' KEG Karaoke w/Rising Phoenix Productions-8
TAYLOR'S DJ Simy-10; Jazzy house, hip hop, disco
VILLAGE GREEN Olem Alves-7:30
WANDERING GOAT Heckler's Movie Night-7
WORLD FLAVORS Bluegrass jam-7



JESSICA
PARSONS-
TAYLOR
PLAYS
JO FED'S
FRIDAY

CLOUD 9/DOWNWARD DOG
130 SW 1st St. • 753-9900
TH The Berg Sans Nipple-9
FR Rematoes-9

FIREWORKS RESTAURANT
1115 SE Third • 754-6958
TH Jam session-9; Funk, blues, jazz
FR Jesse Meade-8; Acoustic R&B
SA Santino Cadiz-9; Roots, rock, reggae

PEACOCK BAR & GRILL
125 SW 2nd St. • 754-8522
SA Normal Bean-8; Rock

PLATINUM NIGHT CLUB
126 SW 4th St. • 738-6996
TH DJ Hes-10
SA DJ Big Brad-10; Hip hop

SAHALIE WINE CELLARS
151 NW Monroe Ave. • 754-7457
FR Swing Habit-9
SA David Samuel Project-9

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SA Acoustic Showcase-8

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SA Terry Robb-8

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YUKON JACK'S 4th & W. Bdwy., Veneta • 935-1921

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BEL AMI LOUNGE 1591 Willamette St. • 485-6242
BLACK FOREST 50 E. 11th Ave. • 686-6609
★ **BORDERS BOOKS** 5 Oakway Center • 345-6072
★ **CAMPBELL CLUB** 17th & Alder St.
THE CITY 2222 MLK Jr. Blvd. • 343-4734
CLUB 420 420 Main St., Spfld.
CLUB SNAFU 64 W. 8th Alley • 342-3272
CONWAYS 5658 Main St., Spfld.
THE COOLER 20 Centennial Loop • 484-4355
★ **CORNUCOPIA** 295 W. 17th • 485-2300
COUNTRY INN 4100 Country Farm Rd • 345-7344
COUNTRY SIDE 4740 Main St., Spfld. • 744-1594

★ **COZMIC PIZZA** 199 W. 8th Ave. • 338-9333
DIABLO'S/DOWNTOWN LOUNGE 959 Pearl St. • 343-2346
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★ **EMERALD CITY COFFEE HOUSE** 347 W. 5th • 342-2420
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FOUR CORNERS HOP HOUSE 2750 Roosevelt Blvd.
GOODFELLAS 117 S. 14th St., Spfld. • 726-9815
HAPPY HOURS 645 River Rd. • 463-7632
HIGHLANDS PUB 390 E. 40th Ave. • 485-4304
INDIGO DISTRICT 290 Oak St. • 434-6553
★ **THE JAZZ STATION** 68 W. Broadway • 345-3315
JOGGER'S 710 Willamette • 343-0224
JOHN HENRY'S 77 W. Broadway • 342-3358
THE KEG 4711 W. 11th Ave. • 345-5563
LATITUDE 21 25 W. 6th Ave. • 338-9000
LAVELLES 5th St. Pub. Mkt. • 338-9875

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★ **THE LORAX MANNER** 17th & Alder
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LUNA 30 E. Broadway • 434-5862
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Kung Fu Karaoke 9pm
EVERY MONDAY
CASH MONEY BINGO 8pm
Every Tuesday
Hold'em 6:30pm
Open Mic 9pm
EVERY WEDNESDAY
Downtown Blues Jam 6:30pm

BLACK FOREST Karaoke-9
COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke-9
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Bingo-8
EARL'S JUKE JOINT "More than a blues jam"
w/Paul Biondi-7
GOODFELLAS Karaoke-7
JO FEDERIGO'S Open Mic-8
JOGGER'S Texas Hold'em-7
ROCK 'N' RODEO Texas Hold'em-6:30
SAM BOND'S Bingo w/Tom & Scott-9
SAMURAI DUCK Cinder Circus-9; Fire dancing
VILLARD ST. PUB Pub Trivia-8
WANDERING GOAT No Bunny, So Cow-8; Pop, punk

TUESDAY MAY 27

AXE & FIDDLE Open Mic-7
BLACK FOREST Rooster Blues Jam, hosted by Skip & Byron-8
BUGS'S Karaoke-8
THE CITY DJ Redd Fox-10; Top 40, hip hop, 80s/90s
COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke-9
COZMIC PIZZA Greg Oldson-9; Americana
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Open Mic-9
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GOODFELLAS Karaoke-7
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JAZZ STATION Spirit of Jazz Jam-8
JOGGERS Karaoke-9
LATITUDE 21 DJ Tekneek-10; Hip hop
LUCKEY'S Jesse Meade, Sam Hahn-10; Rock, acoustic
MACENZI'S TOO Bingo-7
MACHO'S PIZZA Family-friendly Karaoke-7
MAX'S e. geek's Knowledge Knights-7:30
MCSHANE'S Tricycle Races-9

MONROE ST. CAFE Texas Hold'em-6
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Ninth Moon Black, Nanda Devi, Synapse Fire-9; Metal, ambient
THE O BAR Karaoke-9
PEABODY'S PUB Patrick & Giri-7:30; Acoustic rock
ROCK 'N' RODEO Texas Hold'em-6:30 iPod hip hop-9
SAM BOND'S Bluegrass jam-9
SAM'S PLACE Open Turntables-8
SHADY PINES Japanther-8
TABOO Phat Tuesday w/DJ Tekneek-10; Zydeco, Cajun, Creole
TAYLOR'S Karaoke-10
VILLAGE GREEN Jay Schlotterbeck-7; Jazz
WANDERING GOAT Scrabble-7:30; League night
WETLANDS Wii Bowling-6
WORLD FLAVORS Open Mic-7



TEN FOOT POLE CATS PLAY
AXE & FIDDLE THURSDAY

WEDNESDAY MAY 28

AXE & FIDDLE Game Night-7:30
BEL AMI LOUNGE Tim McLaughlin & Sean Peterson-8:30; Funky acid jazz
DAVIS' DJ Sunday Smith-10; Lounge, world beat
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE John Barley-6:30. Downtown Blues Band-8
EUGENE CITY BREWERY Bingo-7:30
GOODFELLAS Mr. Wizard-9:30
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JOGGER'S DJ Tino-10; Hip hop, R&B, dancehall
JOHN HENRY'S DJ Kal El vs. DJ Tekneek-10; Reggae vs. hip hop
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LUCKEY'S International ESPIONAGE!-10; Rock, pop, New Wave
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MULLIGAN'S PUB Open mic-9
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Delta Blues Jam-9:30
THE POUR HOUSE Karaoke-9
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VILLAGE GREEN Olem Alves-7:30
WANDERING GOAT Heckler's Movie Night-7
WORLD FLAVORS Bluegrass jam-7



JESSICA
PARSONS-
TAYLOR
PLAYS
JO FED'S
FRIDAY

CLOUD 9/DOWNWARD DOG
130 SW 1st St. • 753-9900
TH The Berg Sans Nipple-9
FR Rematoes-9

FIREWORKS RESTAURANT
1115 SE Third • 754-6958
TH Jam session-9; Funk, blues, jazz
FR Jesse Meade-8; Acoustic R&B
SA Santino Cadiz-9; Roots, rock, reggae

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125 SW 2nd St. • 754-8522
SA Normal Bean-8; Rock

PLATINUM NIGHT CLUB
126 SW 4th St. • 738-6996
TH DJ Hes-10
SA DJ Big Brad-10; Hip hop

SAHALIE WINE CELLARS
151 NW Monroe Ave. • 754-7457
FR Swing Habit-9
SA David Samuel Project-9

CORVALLIS, ETC.

BEANERY ★
500 SW 2nd St.
FR Eric Nicholson-8
SA Acoustic Showcase-8

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SA Terry Robb-8

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BOOKS BY SUZI STEFFEN

What's in a Convention?

Two memoirs and a novel provide different views of the gay

SWISH: My Quest to Become the Gayest Person Ever, memoir by Joel Derfner. Broadway Books, 2008. Hardcover, \$22.95.

HOMO DOMESTICUS: Notes From a Same-Sex Marriage, memoir by David Valdes Greenwood. DaCapo Press, 2007. Hardcover, \$22; trade paper, \$14.

THE STORY OF A MARRIAGE, fiction by Andrew Sean Greer. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2008. Hardcover, \$22.

Look at the cover of *Swish*. It's pretty much focused on five muscled guys, one wearing a hot pink thong.

Wouldn't you believe the subtitle of Joel Derfner's book and think hey, perhaps this guy can explain things like why gay erotica features men with 10-inch dicks or why sailor hats are so damn gay — and also: What's up with the tiny poodles?

Not what happens. The first chapter contains this sentence: "When your mother gets out of her wheelchair and crawls up the stairs in her nightgown on hands and knees bleeding from diabetic neuropathy, gaily pretending that she has simply found a particularly invigorating new form of exercise, and all you can do, since your father is five hundred miles away saving the world, is make her a rum and Coke with enough Bacardi to knock out a rhinoceros, it becomes difficult to tell her that when she rejected your sexuality she hurt your feelings."

Yikes. Simply not the kind of topic that was promised on the cover, frankly. The rest of the book — which covers online dating, Derfner's step aerobics classes, writing musicals and the Holocaust, go-go dancing and ex-gay therapy, among other things — provides plenty of fascinating, emotionally moving and well-written episodes in Derfner's life. Once I accepted that the title and the cover had less than nothing to do with the book, and despite the painfully obvious wrap-up

discussion of religious right male bonding (done far better in Donna Minkowitz's 1998 *Ferocious Romance*), Derfner's writing yielded its many charms. But no, nothing about purse-sized dogs.

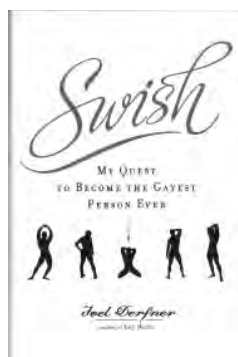
Although David Valdes Greenwood and his husband do experience pet ownership — of a rabbit, no less — in *Homo Domesticus*, Greenwood's memoir leans far more in the "We're just like you!" direction than

Derfner's definitely queer sensibility. Greenwood and his spouse met in grad school and held a wedding a decade before same-sex marriage became legal in Massachusetts. This memoir covers the basics that any twenty- and thirty-something couple experience, especially in a big city: money differences, house hunting, learning to fight and to compromise, dealing

with pets and figuring out how to deal with the kid issue (and then the kid). If you're a person who needs reassurance that not all gay men become knitting, neurotic, step-aerobicizing, go-go dancing New Yorkers, this is the sweet, smart book for you. If you roll your eyes at the idea that *anyone* would give in to the patriarchal construct of marriage, stay away.

But you might want to check out Andrew Sean Greer's *The Story of a Marriage*. This novel, the follow-up to his tremendously successful *The Confessions of Max Tivoli*, centers around the story of Pearlie Cook and her husband Holland — and another man, a white man, who could wreck Pearlie's hard-earned marriage. Set in 1950s San Francisco and touching without harping on sexual orientation, race, class, courage and betrayal, this quick read (fastest literary

novel ever!) provides lovely passages on its way to a surprising finale. Greer reads from *Story of a Marriage* at 7:30 pm Tuesday, May 27, at Powell's on Burnside in Portland. If you go, expect a packed Pearl(ie) Room and plan accordingly. **EW**



BOOK NOTES

Emory Douglas gives a slide show presentation on his book *Black Panther: The Revolutionary Art of Emory Douglas*, 4 pm 5/22, Mills International Resource Center, EMU, UO. **Adam Leigh Gollner** discusses *The Fruit Hunters*, 7:30 pm 5/26, Powell's on Burnside, Portland. **Armistead Maupin** reads from *Michael Tolliver Lives*, 7 pm 5/27, Powell's, Beaverton. **John Pomfret** discusses *Notes From a Gambling Nation: Why China is Not Going to Be the World's Next Superpower*, 5 pm 5/28, 282 Lillis, UO. **Phillip Margolin** (*Shadow of Power*) and **Steve Martini** (*Executive Privilege*) read, 7 pm 5/28, Powell's, Beaverton. **Leonard Mlodinow** discusses *The Drunkard's Walk*, 7:30 pm 5/28, Powell's on Burnside, Portland. **Oregon Quarterly Essay Contest winners'** reading, with judge/opening speaker Kathleen Dean Moore, 7:30 pm 5/29, Gerlinger Lounge, UO. **Richard Thompson** discusses *Willamette Valley Railways*, 7 pm 5/29, Powell's, Beaverton. Editor **Shari MacDonald Strong** and contributors **Jennifer Margulis**, **Alisa Gordaneer**, **Gigi Rosenberg** and **Margaret McConnell** discuss *The Maternal is Political*, 7:30 pm 5/29, Powell's on Hawthorne, Portland.

Goodbye Again

In which we mourn yet another bookstore

If you Google “independent bookstore closing,” you will find yourself staring down a depressingly large number of resulting pages. The sources range from tiny blogs to *Publishers Weekly* and *The New York Times*; the stores in question are all over the country. The stories are always different; the stories are always the same.

“It is hard not to take this as a sign of the times,” said The Huffington Post when L.A.’s Dutton’s Brentwood Books closed last month. In March, Canada’s oldest bookstore closed. Early in 2007, the American Booksellers Association reported that nearly 100 independent bookstores opened their doors in 2006, and while those brave souls give us hope, we worry that even they can’t stem this tide.

To our dismay, we now find ourselves writing a story to add to the list of indie bookstore closure reports. Last week, we started swearing when we heard the news: Books Without Borders, the little bookstore inside the Strand, will close on May 31.

We swore at Borders, at Barnes & Noble, at people who tell independent bookstore owners not to order a book — “That’s OK; I can get it from Amazon!” — at people who never venture downtown because they’re alarmed by the smelly kids, at ourselves for spending money at Powells instead of at BWoB. Words like “evil corporations” were

tossed around along with thoughts like, “But who will chat with us about our obsession with young adult books and fantasy series?”

Owner Amelia Reising, who spent long hours creating partnerships with community organizations, making her little corner store inviting with chalk drawings, plants and handlettered signs, writing book recommendations and getting to know her

loyal customers, decided it was time to let the store go. Revenue in April fell 25 percent from last April (last year’s sales were influenced in part by preorders for the final *Harry Potter*), and that was just too alarming.

From our point of view, it’s a tragedy. A small tragedy, nothing like the typhoon in Burma or the earthquake in China. Just another small bookstore shut down — a local loss that’s been repeated over and over worldwide since monster stores like Borders and Barnes & Noble spread like Ebola, since Amazon and other online booksellers made it easy not to leave home or work, since Wal-

Mart and Costco started discounting books as if they were tires or bulk toilet paper.

Yes, larger corporations can offer more health insurance and benefits. Yes, those large box bookstores offer coffee shops and room for kids to run around trashing the childrens’ book section and comfy chairs to fall asleep in. And it’s not as if the workers in those stores hate books (not usually, at least). But personality — that gets lost.

One of us grew up in a city and remembers the thrill of the first Borders, then a very small Midwestern chain. She went to Borders a lot. ’Twas brightly lit with spaces

money in her pockets for a new paperback, and remembers the lure of the Willamette Street Smith Family’s endless shelves of half-hidden treasures (even before it got a facelift). She also remembers working in a Manhattan Barnes & Noble that dismayed her with the way its management didn’t care about books — except as product, as revenue. Not as things to love.

Books Without Borders represented a fighting spirit: Reising and a former co-owner had both worked at the charming BookMark for years before that store closed, and they decided to open the smaller store knowing full well how frustrating it could be to watch a well-beloved small business fall through the cracks.

In February, Reising wrote an impassioned open letter to Kitty Piercy that ran in our letters section, asking her to consider “shopping in locally owned downtown businesses and asking others to do the same.”

We can’t save Books Without Borders now. But maybe we can help other quirky, personality driven, wonderful downtown and independent small businesses in honor of Reising’s generous, thoughtful spirit, and in honor of all that is small. **EW**

Books Without Borders holds a Last Hurrah from 6 pm to 8 pm Saturday, May 24, at the store at 8th and Charnelton. Local authors will sign books and local bands will perform; proceeds from the \$5 cover charge will help the bookstore cover the costs of donating their remaining children’s books to Books for Kids, which distributes books to underprivileged Oregon kids.

Books Without Borders, we will miss you.

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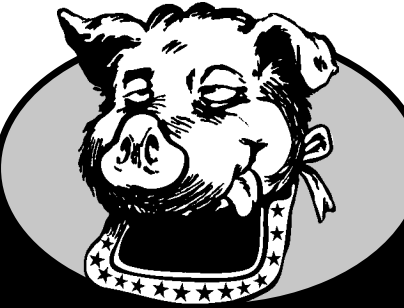
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* benefits Books for Kids
* \$5.00 cover charge

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EMPLOYMENT Page 36



CROSSWORD Page 38



HOUSING Page 41



ASTROLOGY Page 40

Bulletin Board Announcements

QUALITY CRAFT SHOW, 11th Annual, May 24-25, 10 am. Yachats Commons. 65 booths, crafts, art, demos, food. Free admission. 541-547-4664. EXPECT the EXCEPTIONAL.

Legal Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE Department of Probate CASE # 50-08-09859 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Matter of the Estate of MARJORIE ARLINE SCHAAF, deceased. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on May 13, 2008, William L. Schaaf was appointed and deemed qualified to act as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present these claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below to the personal representative, at 495 W. 28th Ave, Eugene, OR 97405, or sent to the personal representative, in care of Richard Huhtanen, Attorney, 142 W. 8th Ave, Eugene, OR 97401, (541) 465-9112, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative. DATED AND FIRST PUBLISHED: May 22, 2008. Richard Huhtanen OSB# 88230, 142 W. 8th Ave, Eugene, OR 97401, (541) 465-9112.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY PROBATE DEPARTMENT In the Matter of the Estate of DORIS (NMI) EDMONSTON, Deceased. Case No. 50-08-08588 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS against the Estate of DORIS (NMI) EDMONSTON, Deceased, Lane County Probate Case No. 50-08-08588, are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the Personal Representative, appointed by the Lane County Circuit Court, at 1158 High Street, Suite 102, Eugene, Oregon 97401, within four (4) months from May 15, 2008, the date of first publication, or such

claims may be barred. Any person whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this Estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative or the attorney of the Personal Representative. MARY EDMONSTON, Personal Representative, c/o Lee J. Judy, Attorney, Phone: 541-687-4802.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of MATTHEW ROY COMSTOCK, Deceased. Case No. 50-08-09398 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed the Personal Representative of the said estate. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same, with proper vouchers, within FOUR (4) months after the date of first publication of this Notice, as stated below, to the Personal Representative c/o Jane B. Stewart, Attorney at Law, 66 Club Road, Suite 200, Eugene, Oregon 97401, attorney for Personal Representative, or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative. DATED, and first published: May 22, 2008. Aneta Comstock, Personal Representative, 4800 Barger Dr., #67, Eugene, OR 97402 Phone: (541) 688-0262. Jane B. Stewart (OSB#75356) Attorney at Law, 66 Club Road, Suite 200, Eugene, OR 97401 Phone: (541) 342-6679 Fax: (541) 342-6683 Email: jabs@callatg.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE PROBATE DEPARTMENT In the Matter of the Estate of: JAMES STEWART UTT, Deceased. Case No. 50-08-07272 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned is the attorney for the Personal Representative of the above entitled Estate. All persons having claims against the Estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the Personal Representative at: J. Richard Utt, Personal Representative, c/o Alice M. Plymell, Attorney at Law, 132 East Broadway, Suite 718, Eugene, Oregon 97401-3159. Telephone: (541) 343-9341, within four (4) months after the date of first publication of

this Notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative, Alice M. Plymell, Attorney at Law, 132 East Broadway, Suite 718, Eugene, Oregon 97401-3159. DATED and first published May 22, 2008. Alice M. Plymell, OSB No. 630654, Attorney for Personal Representative.

CIRCUIT COURT OF OREGON COUNTY OF LANE Case No: 50-08-03729 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Matter of the Estate of MARIANNE MARKS, Deceased. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Larry Marks and David Marks have been appointed Personal Representatives of the above-referenced estate. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the Personal Representatives at the Law Office of Marc P. Friedman, Attorney, P.C., 245 W. 13th Ave., Eugene, Oregon 97401, within four (4) months after the date of first publication of this Notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representatives or the attorney for the Personal Representatives. Dated and first published May 22, 2008. Larry Marks, David Marks

Lost & Found

LOST BLACK CANVAS BAG w/photo of Earth printed on front. Lost somewhere between W. Eugene & campus. 541-683-5330.

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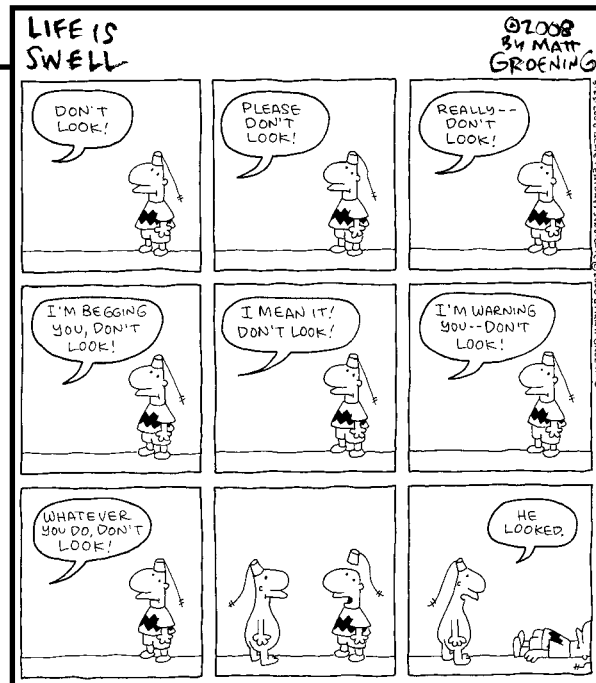
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ASK A MEXICAN!

BY GUSTAVO ARELLANO

Dear Mexican: Why did the Mexican comedian Cantinflas never catch on in Hollywood? I thought he was supposed to usher in the Mexican wave of actors and movies that would help transform Hollywood. Instead, that movement ended up flat as a tortilla. — El Curioso

Dear Curious Gabacho: Do people even know who Cantinflas is anymore? For those of you not familiar with the actor, Cantinflas was

Mexico's Charlie Chaplin – wait, do people even know who

Charlie Chaplin is anymore?

For those of you not familiar

with the actor, Charlie Chaplin

was the greatest star of the

silent film era – wait, do people

even know what silent films

are anymore? Sorry for the

digressions, but your *pre-*

gunta is so wonderfully

anachronistic that most

people might think it's as

relevant to the present day

as the Nez Perce. But

Cantinflas (born Mario

Moreno) offers a valuable les-

son to today's Mexican thespians.

Instead of accepting every

stereotypical Mexican role Hollywood

offered, Cantinflas signed on for only two: as the butler Passepartout in

the 1956 film *Around the World in 80 Days* and the titular character in

1960's *Pepe*. He drew praise for his acting in the first but bombed in the

second, mostly because of a linguistic comedic barrier: his verbal humor,

a mishmash of double entendres, non sequiturs, and puns so genius it

notched its own verb (*cantinflear*) in the Royal Academy of Spanish dic-

tionary. Understanding that the nuances of his craft were virtually impos-

sible to translate, Cantinflas decided to focus on Mexican films and never

appeared in another English-language production.

The lesson for today's wabby Oliviers? Maintain your dignity, don't

sell off your talent for a cheap buck, and *never* offer your services for

something called *Beverly Hills Chihuahua* – wait, Salma Hayek, Cheech

Marin, Edward James Olmos, Paul Rodriguez and George Lopez are

starring in this fall flick? Virtually every modern-day Mexican actor

that studios respect are willing to voice dogs?! Unless it's a social

satire on the level of *The Importance of Being Earnest*, this Disney

movie seems like the worst Mexican disaster since NAFTA.

I'm a California white boy with many Mexican friends. In addition to that,

I've been running a fantasy baseball league for nine years. For the first time,

we have a large percentage of Mexicans in our league — of the 14 teams,

Mexicans run three of them, and one gabacho has a Mexican wife. One of

those Mexican-run teams came up with the name The Fence Hoppers. This

doesn't really affect me personally, but as commissioner, I need to make sure

other people don't get bent out of shape over it. Should I be worried, or is it

the equivalent to blacks dropping N-bombs on each other? You or Bud Selig

are the only two people who can help me. — Dinger Donger

Dear Gabacho: First off, fuck Bud Selig: the man wouldn't know how

to run Major League Baseball if you gave him two balls and a

Louisville Slugger. Considering the sport features the Cleveland

Indians, whose mascot is a grinning, red-skinned Injun named Chief

Wahoo, and allows a team to ridiculously name itself the Los Angeles

Angels of Anaheim, The Fence Hoppers is benign – and, if anyone

asks, say it refers to horsehides landing in the bleachers instead of

Mexicans plopping onto American soil.

CONFIDENTIAL TO: The lady who sent me a profane rant weaving

together Poles, Mexicans, Ellis Island, taco necks and leprosy. *Chula:* I

loved your letter, but I'm not in the habit of printing thoughts; I answer

questions. Same goes for the rest of the Know Nothing nation:

Guatemalans are smart enough to turn their bile into *preguntas* – are

ustedes dumber than Guatemalans?

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Jonesin' Crossword By Matt Jones

"Repeat After Me"
-I solemnly swear that's how it works.

<p>Across</p> <p>1 T, in Morse code</p> <p>5 Big differences</p> <p>9 "Speed Racer" star Hirsch</p> <p>14 Number learned on "Sesame Street"</p> <p>15 Sans opposite</p> <p>16 Try out the auction again</p> <p>17 Purple stuff in a can</p> <p>19 Campbell banned from British Airways in April 2008</p> <p>20 Feline section of the animal hospital?</p> <p>22 Stefani with the clothing line L.A.M.B.</p> <p>23 Body part that may be "on the line"</p> <p>24 Decade divs.</p> <p>25 "How did ___ that happen?"</p> <p>27 ___ tai</p> <p>28 Fizzle</p> <p>32 Mozart's "___ Concerto in C major"</p> <p>35 Vientiane's country</p> <p>37 Final decision</p>	<p>38 Crap</p> <p>39 Allow to attack</p> <p>41 Word after church or opera</p> <p>42 "Your lights ___"</p> <p>44 Went up</p> <p>45 Dollar rival</p> <p>46 "I object"</p> <p>48 Partner of "neither"</p> <p>50 Waffle brand</p> <p>51 Train stop: abbr.</p> <p>52 Peabody Award winner Rather</p> <p>55 "Aw, crud"</p> <p>57 Do nothing more than be dependent?</p> <p>61 "She sees the bartender in ___ of blood" (Bob Dylan lyric)</p> <p>63 Like most churches</p> <p>64 Bruce convicted in a 1964 obscenity trial</p> <p>65 They may bind</p> <p>66 ___-chic (women's fashion style)</p> <p>67 It runs around a building</p> <p>68 Comes to a halt</p> <p>69 Extremely fussy</p>	<p>Down</p> <p>1 Movie where Alanis Morissette plays God</p> <p>2 Farm measurements</p> <p>3 George Bernard and others</p> <p>4 Kachina doll maker</p> <p>5 Cooker with a propane tank</p> <p>6 Declares openly</p> <p>7 Prefix before cab or cure</p> <p>8 Read a UPC</p> <p>9 Directional ending</p> <p>10 Insufficient older person?</p> <p>11 Awe-filled comment</p> <p>12 Cuba libre garnish</p> <p>13 Lute player Karamazov who collaborated on Sting's "Songs From the Labyrinth"</p> <p>18 "Orinoco Flow" singer</p> <p>21 "Beat it, punk!"</p> <p>26 "___ Miserables"</p> <p>27 Large ape found in Vietnam?</p> <p>28 "The Gift of Asher Lev" novelist Chaim</p> <p>29 Those things: Sp.</p>	<p>30 Part of GUI</p> <p>31 Matador's foe</p> <p>32 California town home to the Six Million Dollar Man</p> <p>33 Reynolds of "Boogie Nights"</p> <p>34 "Hang on..."</p> <p>36 Prefix before dynamic</p> <p>40 Lacking a canopy</p> <p>43 Egg ___</p> <p>47 "Arcadia" playwright Stoppard</p> <p>49 Blackish form of quartz</p> <p>51 Class full of jokes</p> <p>52 Screwtape, in "The Screwtape Letters"</p> <p>53 Head of the pack</p> <p>54 Sleep aid once advertised to "help you get your Z's"</p> <p>55 Oates's partner</p> <p>56 Fencing sword</p> <p>58 Suffix after kitchen</p> <p>59 "Chocolate ___" (2007 YouTube viral video)</p> <p>60 Country star McEntire</p> <p>62 Soapmaking caustic</p>
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V	A	L	E	T	S	S	A	V	E	T
A	V	E	R	S	E	I	R	O	N	L
N	I	C	K	E	L	B	A	C	K	E
Y	A	L	E	S	E	C	R	E	T	E
I	R	A	T	B	S	S	A	G		
G	O	L	D	T	O	O	T	H		
O	N	A	I	R		P	A	U		
T	A	S	T	E		S	T	E	E	L
T	A	R		E	V	A				
P	I	L	O	T	E	D		O	T	I
E	D	I	E		B	R	A	S	S	B
L	E	A	D		F	O	O	T		
E	A	R		B	O	N	T			
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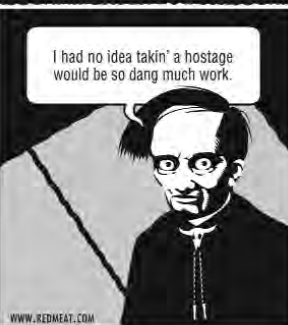
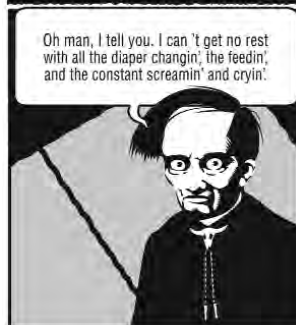
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6:00pm	•	•	•	•	•		

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Sudoku

	7	1				5	3	
			2					1
9			8		3			6
4		5		2		1		
	8	2				6	9	
			9					4
5			1		7			9
3		9			8		7	

Place numbers 1-9 so that each row, column and 3x3 square has each number only once. There is only one solution. Visit www.sudokuplace.com for a puzzle solver. @sudokuplace.com All rights reserved.

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BEGINNING SIGN Language Starts May 19. 11 am - 12 noon \$50 per month. Lane Independent Living Alliance. Deaf Instructor Dean Gabel dgabel@lilaoregon.org

THE ART OF BEING HUMAN Presented by Open Sky Shambhala Meditation Group on June 6-8 Free introductory Talk, Fri June 6 @ 7pm. 100 West Q St., Springfield. www.eugeneshambhala.org or 726-1988 info.

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free will astrology BY ROB BREZSNY

ARIES (March 21-April 19): After working for years in various jobs at San Francisco TV station KTVU, Frank Somerville was promoted to the top of the heap – lead anchorman of the 10 o'clock news program. He promised that his new power wouldn't make him lazy or complacent. "Nobody will out-curious me," he bragged. I hope you will adopt the same motto for the foreseeable future, Aries. Your world needs you to be intensely inquisitive about what's transpiring. Uncoincidentally, asking lots of smart questions (and even some dumb ones) will also be the best possible thing you can do for your mental health.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): "The Irish don't know what they want and are prepared to fight for it," said British attorney Sidney Littlewood. I don't endorse that assertion, since it's an offensive ethnic stereotype, but I do want to borrow it to create a cautionary message for you. Please make sure that in the upcoming weeks no one can say to you, "You don't know what you want and yet you are prepared to fight for it." I definitely hope you aggressively champion an idea you believe in or a dream you care about, but you should get clearer about what exactly it is.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Giuseppe Rebaudi and Silvie Basain started dating in 1952. This year they finally decided to take the next step. After a 56-year courtship, the 101-year-old Italian man wed his 98-year-old girlfriend. I predict that a comparable event will bless your love life in the second half of 2008, Gemini. Some romantic development that has been in the works for a long time will finally ripen into its full expression. Expect news about this soon.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): If you're normal, you periodically feel little surges of anger that you don't express. Over time they may accumulate into a mass of blind rage that can hurt innocent bystanders, damage your relationships, and tempt you to punch holes in walls. Is there a way to keep this from happening? Yes, there is: It's my patented Laughing Tantrum Release Therapy, a five-minute ritual that you perform once a week in a private place with no witnesses. For four minutes, you fume, seethe, curse, and yell. For the final 60 seconds, you compel yourself to laugh uncontrollably. This week would be an excellent time to start integrating Laughing Tantrum Release Therapy into your routine.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Guerrilla gardening is my favorite kind of prank: a benevolent one. The practitioners of this growing global movement are fertility agitators who sneak onto unused fields under cover of broad daylight, often in urban landscapes, and cultivate flowers, herbs, and food crops. In accordance with the astrological omens, I recommend that you experiment with a metaphorically similar project in the upcoming weeks. Without necessarily seeking permission or expecting appreciation, cultivate beauty and value in a place that's neglected or going to waste.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): *Dear Star-Reader Brezsnay: You are the only wizard who can save me. I have a bad job – just \$72,000 a year – plus a lover who's not all that cute and a home that's not worth as much as it used to be. My health is good but I hate my nose and ass. Can't afford a BMW or a vacation to Spain. My world is unraveling! Hope is fading! Please tell me what to do!* --Virgo on the Verge. Dear On the Verge: I suggest that you temporarily suspend your strident yearning. This is one time when it's important to cultivate more appreciation for what you actually have. I urge you and all Virgos to turn your attention away from what you think you lack, and devote your psychic energy to loving what is.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Even if you're not sick, you need some medicine. What kind of medicine? The kind that can transform what's pretty good about your life into something that's really great; the kind that will super-animate your merely average efforts and blast you free of any lackadaisical attitudes you've come to accept as reasonable. This medicine won't come in the form of a pill or a potion, but rather will be produced by your own body if and when you slip away from your comfort zone and go out to play in the frontier. Be your own doctor, Libra. Break your own trance. Crack your own code. Escape your own mind games.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your life in the coming weeks may resemble a dream of sailing deep beneath the waves in a yellow submarine where a nonstop party is going on. It'll be as if you're plowing through deep, heavy, murky waters inside a brightly-lit high-tech vessel that is controlled by slightly chaotic connoisseurs of fun. You may feel a bit claustrophobic, but that could encourage your imagination to run wild, which will be a good thing as long as you don't believe everything it tells you. In conclusion, Scorpio, get ready for entertaining adventures that will range from being a bit creepy to totally delicious.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): During America's first war on Iraq in 1991, I prophesied that one day there'd be a Disneyland in Baghdad. It was a surrealistically sardonic send-up of my native country's imperialism. But now, 17 years later, my absurd prediction is coming true. The same American company that designed the original Disneyland has announced plans to build the Baghdad Zoo and Entertainment Experience. If workers survive bombing, looting, and sniper fire, the first part of the 50-acre amusement park will open this year. While I question whether building a monument to fun is a good idea in an actual war zone, it's an excellent metaphor for you to apply to your personal life. Even if you can't extinguish a certain conflict that has been raging, try to introduce a spirit of play into the proceedings.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): I'm issuing a too-much-of-a-good-thing warning. Soaking up too much pleasure could dilute the value of your bliss. Expressing too much personal power could scare away valuable allies who are competent but not entirely confident. Pushing too hard on behalf of your creative pragmatism could subtly undermine the labor of love you've worked so hard on. Therefore, Capricorn, please accept my invitation to enjoy a period of rest and assimilation. You can return later for another round of pure intensity.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Studies show that at least half the population would give up sex for a few months if they'd be rewarded for their abstinence with a free 60-inch plasma TV. But if you're offered a deal like that anytime soon, Aquarius, I suggest you reject it. According to my analysis of the omens, it will be crucial to your mental, physical, and spiritual health to have regular erotic experiences during the coming weeks. If you don't have a partner, have fun with your invisible muse, the angel in your dreams, or your personal version of God or Goddess.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A professional dominatrix I know says that many of her clients are men whose jobs give them excessive authority over other people. When she's bossing around these honchos, she sees herself as an agent of karmic correction, counteracting a dangerous lopsidedness in their psyches. I bring this up, Pisces, because you're in a phase when you should rectify any imbalance of power that exists in your own sphere. If you're a swaggering alpha male or female, put in a stint as a humble servant. If you're normally a timid soul, flex your willpower with feisty abandon. If you're neither a control freak nor a doormat – and thus have no karma to balance – spend quality time meditating on how to gain more power over the wild ebbs and flows of your imagination.

HOMEWORK: Create a list of five words you consider bad and five words you consider good. Then make up a little chant using them all, and speak the chant aloud 10 times. Testify at RealAstrology.com.

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UNIQUE FUNNY KIND

Looking for a guy that can keep the big picture in focus. Let's find ways to help each other feel happy and loved. We can explore and live life fully. **Cassidy, 45, #101568**

CUTE, SHY, ME

Let's see. Me: Serious/silly, shy/outgoing, etc. I love the coast, Eddie Izzard, Monty Python, strawberries, my dog, my cats, book stores, antique shops. Political: social liberal/fiscally conservative (liberal/moderate). **Angela66, 41, #101573**

MAD WICKED FRESH

I'm a street walkin cheetah with a heart full of Napalm... who likes candy, horror movies, haunted houses, tattoos, words, good hugs, and laughing so hard I nearly soil myself. **CandyCoatedPoet, 24, #101570**

BBW SEEKING SOULMATE

Im a down to earth woman with some meat on her bones, looking for a no bullshit Man 21-30 who is caring, honest, fun and has a sense of humor! **SkySoft25, 25, #101564**

FRIENDS WITH BENEFITS...

Very attractive young woman is sexually deprived. ISO a discrete friendship with benefits. Everyone deserves to be loved, desired, and fulfilled. I'm looking for someone to give me the 3rd. **taylia, 28, #101534**

SWEET, SPICY, SILLY

I'm a generally down-to-earth kind of geeky girl. I can usually be spotted reading scifi, heavily concentrated in defeating a New York Times Crossword, or jogging on Pre's trail. **nerdchic, 24, #101512**

I LIKE CHEESE

I love going camping, fishing, crabbing, I love to read, cook, sleep, and give great back massages. I have a great personality. **himynamiscasey, 18, #101490**

VERY LOVING

Im 31 female looking for a female or male for longterm or dating. I'm a very fun loving person. I have alot of love to offer. **exoticwaterfall, 31, #101468**

MOMMY HAS TATTOOS

tattooed/pierced freak needed. Must have job and own life but able 2 work me in. Spend time w/me not money. I have my own thanks! **cherrykiss003, 20, #101434**

I AM REAL

Hi, my name is Char and I am 38 years old. I don't drink, smoke, or use drugs and prefer people who don't either. I like to sing karaoke. **Char, 38, #101431**

WOMAN LOOKING

SBF, educated, honest, tolerant, Christian. Looking for someone who is down to earth. I like sci/fi & action movies, reading, dancing/singing. Give me your opinion and I will respect you. **woman, 56, #101427**

LOOKING FOR LOVE

Looking for a good guy who wants a good lady. Me: musical, whimsical, intelligent, nervous. You: gentle, willing to take things slow, sharing some of my interests (music, books, animals?). **Echo, 22, #101393**

KIND, PLAYFUL, COMPASSIONATE

I am a great gal. Kinda pretty and whitty. Calm and mellow. Enjoy music and kids. It would be nice to meet someone to share simple pleasures with. Coffee date? **SUN18, 52, #101361**

BELLY LAUGHS

come out and play and show me what your made of. **anubuskoda, 40, #101298**

PANDAS EAT BAMBOO...

I'm a 25 year old vegan who just recently moved to Eugene...I'm looking to make some new friends and explore this town... **shotgunbetty, 25, #101355**

SUPER KAT

Here are a few adjectives that both help describe me and what I'm looking for: trustworthy, open, caring, supportive, emotionally/mentally stable, and, of course, fun and funny. Warning: I'm a bit of an earth science nerd. **SuperKat, 24, #101319**

HELLO SUNSHINE!

Looking to have some fun this summer! Seeking adventure! **ruthy, 19, #101317**

SWEET BBW SEEKING

Me: 5'7" brn hair, blue eyes seeking someone to watch a flick, listen to good music and good conversation. You: Tall, 22-34 and into Big Women. **leighbbw25, 25, #101316**

SMART OVERSEAS WOMAN

Honest, kind, sincere older boomer with lots to give would like to meet same in male. Love outdoors, beach, the mountains, hang'en at B & B Coffee or Sat. market. **loulou, 58, #101279**

CURVY CUTE SMART

I am looking for a good HONEST man who likes to see live music or sit home and watch bad horror movies. I am funny and cute. **zila, 40, #101261**



COUPLE SEEKS GIRL

We are a loving couple. Him=black, she=white. Looking for a girl for some adult fun, no more. We are clean, std free, and discreet, you be the same. **NOW-PDG, 27, #101535**

BI GIRL LOOKING

I'm funny, a little crazy, creative, great cook, pretty smile, cute and sexy with lovely blue eyes. I love to meet new people. Honesty and no drama are big turn ons. **stellar, 26, #101481**

READY TO LOVE

I'm loyal, trustworthy, ready to love completely, an open communicator, giving, thoughtful etc. I'd love to meet the woman of my dreams but am open to dating casually as well. **winter-mom, 40, #101342**

UNTIE THE RIBBONS

Single, lesbian, 52, looking for fun and excitement, lets see where things lead. Age/race not important. 420 friendly a must. **reddmermaid, 52, #101111**

TWISTED, PASSIONATE, FUN, I am 5'8, Blonde, 42, slender. Biking is my thing. Will do just about anything 4 excitement or adventure. Drug/disease free. Non-drinker. Complete with all of my papers and have had my shots. **WangChung13, 41, #101319**

SWEETHEART WANTED

sexy lipstick bisexual, love of the arts and artists, love old timey music, blues, reading searching for the meaning of life and looking for true love and great sex. **darkstar, 36, #101078**

LET'S MAKE HISTORY

I love adventure and being spontaneous. I'm looking for a woman who is stable. Race and age are not a factor, honesty and respect are. **Teutonic_Princess, 45, #101037**



I DUNNO

wanna be friends? **jon, 35, #101488**

NO EXIT

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SINGER

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I am very laid back and easy going once you get to know me. I love to hike, bike, workout, lay in the sun, boating, wine tasting, Texas Hold em... **brian7, 35, #101569**

NEVER RUSH

spanish guy from eugene seeking sexuall encounters. I'm very clean and love to give all my attention. Under cover fun no strings. **spanish_in_eugene, 32, #101565**

CUTE BLUEYED GUY

Single 43 year old seeking a new best friend potential love/love interest/future mrs? Can't say much in 30 words so write me find out the rest. **oceanknight, 43, #101541**

FUN, FREE, FACETED!

Very honest, open minded, caring, sometimes intense, always concientious, good hearted single male. Looking to connect with a warm, honest, accepting, playful, affectionate, attractive lady. Confident/assertive are pluses! :o). **DiverseOne, 35, #101519**

FUN-LOVING, ADVENTUROUS, ROMANTIC

I'm 47, 5'10", 160 lbs. Looking for someone to laugh with, play board or card games, visit Galleries and Museums and go for walks or drives. Must love puppies. **slgh, 47, #101520**

SKIBOY GEEK

Looking for someone to cuddle with while watching movies, camp with on summer weekends, and go on adventures with. **volkrevolution, 25, #101484**

HERE FOR FUN

I am looking for a someone who is herb friendly looking for a good time at living life. Sarcastic, witty, intelligent, and who likes themselves. **pookeybear, 23, #101465**

DANCE PARTNER +

Wanted: dance partner with benefits to dance Casino style salsa. Me 57, fit, athletic, very high energy. UB2 at any age. Prefer some experience, but willing to teach right person. **TzolkInDancer, 57, #101462**

FRIENDS WITH BENEFITS

Seeking an attractive, energetic, confident and sexual woman who would be interested in participating in a discreet, Friends with Benefits relationship. **mire-ally, 49, #101425**

CLYDE SEEKS BONNIE.

I'm looking for someone who I can have fun with and get into some trouble with. Be yourself is all I ask really, I don't like fake people. **ebgdesign, 24, #101457**

JERR BEAR

Good looking professional man with gorgeous, deep ocean blue eyes. Athletically inclined, enjoy sports activities, social events, art, travel, dinners, etc. Want someone with similar interests to spend time with. **Starting_Fresh, 53, #101453**

ROCK!

Local musician looking for cool lady to hang out with and possibly more. I dont need drama queens, been there done that. **skeeter, 35, #101451**

SMALL TOWN GUY

Kinda shy but I open up. Family is everything to me. I do anything I can to help people. **Riley468, 21, #101445**

ORDO AD CHAO.

Jock rock my ass! Listen to those lyrics, man. That song's about love, and longing. Yes.... and hobbits. **Grim_Gnarlicon, 26, #101424**

HAPPY DAZE

Fun-loving nature boy who can't live without music. I'm interested in active, intelligent women with zest for life. Let's go explore this beautiful state. **musicman, 42, #101422**

MONZA

No drugs, drinking, smoking. Living life on life's terms. I am a loyal and loving person. Not a playa no games. Looking for a light hearted fun loving women. **boonedocks, 42, #101420**

OUTDOORS, HOMEBODY

I'm 21, Want a girl that needs a hang out spot, and enjoys grabbing the world by the balls. 18-24 is what I'm looking for.:). **bosh, 21, #101414**



SLIGHTLY INSANE MASCULINE

29, 170 lbs, 5'11, brown hair and eyes. Half Vietnamese half Anglo American. Funny and Serious. I would like to hang out with a masculine white male. 20-35. **andrayr, 29, #101375**



FROM ANOTHER TIME

punk rock grrrl interested in lucid quantum buddhist steam-punk shamanism. my kids are rad. I'm an artist living outside Eugene. just looking for folks to rule the apocalypse with me. **Pazyryk, 32, #101559**

DOWN TO A SCIENCE

just another opportunity to get myself out into the great electronic unknown... **nuggyhero, 32, #101274**

PRETTY GIRLS SMILE

people meet and go eat food would it be ok if they never see each other again come what may. **happy_hippo, 26, #101430**

BOMB HILLSNOT COUNTRIES

Strong, independent woman looking for ruggers and other cool ass motha f****s. Must be funny and can be nerdy. Love spending more time out than in. No stupid people please. **ryde4life11, 18, #101394**

HONEST, LAID-BACK

I'm a 24 year old who graduated from the UO and now I work at the University. I'm looking to meet fun people to hang out with. **Sitamaya, 24, #101190**

HARDCORE HONORABLE DIGNAFIDE

I'm easy going, honest, true, and very into what I do. Music is my life and having a girl who can love music the way I do would be complete bliss for me. **21/6'1/60lb. sideofright, 23, #101354**

MIDDLE OF GRAY

I suppose in one word, I'm "gray." Not because I'm either black or white, but because I'm all over the spectrum and will surprise you with each question asked. **BeeThing, 18, #101327**

TALENTED, SINCERE, OFF-BEAT

Not Romeo seeking Juliet or Petruchio seeking Katharine. Definitely not Macbeth seeking Lady Macbeth or Hamlet seeking Ophelia. I'm more Puck seeking Oberon or Titania for woodland mischief. **sirlaughalot, 47, #101326**

FUNNY GUY HERE

I got thirty words so what should I do, tella joke or say I want a plethora of hot single women to tie me up and spank and pleasure me? **soulfulwanderer, 23, #101315**

ADVENTUROUS, IN-TOUCH-WITH-REALITY, VERSATILE

everything I see is the most interesting thing in the world. I'm intrigued by life and all the things in it. I love going on adventures. **savethecows, 20, #101296**

SMELLY GARDEN HATER

I am a Levayan Satanist, with a nihilistic view of most things. I want to be a theoretical physicist. I am very satirical. Avoid me, if you can. Hahaha. **baphomet, 24, #101290**

LOOKN FOR ME?

Looking for lunch? I want to be friends first. I'm the nicest guy around very polite, pashent, dependable and bad speller! **David, 53, #101201**

ROCKIN MAMA BITCH

I dig life liberty and the pursuit of happiness. I hate liars, cheaters, and thieves. I want to be able to swap out tattoos according to my mood. **dread-eduyuppie, 39, #101119**

CAPTAIN, BOAT CAPTIAN

Aware of my bad habits. Young, dumb, and full of... I love bad movies and maracas. Long flowing Native hair and a bead in my beard. **Deluka, 19, #101077**

ACTIVE HAPPY ALIVE

Hi - I'm new to the Eugene area and looking for women friends to explore this new home of mine - I like hiking, biking, shopping and exploring new towns. **mitzi, 22, #101019**

PIERCED TATTED FREAK

what u see is what u get. **inkmeat69, 33, #101187**



FREE BOX HIPPIE

Saw you lookin through the free box around 28th the other day. Talked briefly. Mutual attraction? Single? Coffee? **When: Thursday, May 15, 2008. Where: 28th. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900061**

TICKLING DELIGHTFULLY

Smokey beauty, shiney eyes. Contact, recognition, you reached for my hand. You asked before touching my ears, tickled them, then my belly. Me:dumb-struck; You:gone. Can I tickle you, too? **When: Saturday, May 17, 2008. Where: Hult Party. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900060**

BLACK SUNDRESS/FATHER

You at saturday market and pc market of choice. Talked to you at salad bar. I'm interested. Me:psychotherapist. Very smart and playful **When: Saturday, May 17, 2008. Where: pc market of choice. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900059**

GREEN THUMB HOTTIE

I love that you gave the shirt off your back for a stranger and that you named 2 of your fish Alex. Miko says HappyBirthday. Little surprises on the way... **When: Thursday, May 15, 2008. Where: 13 and Jefferson. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900058**

CORVALLIS RALLY HOTTIE

5-12 Clinton rally. You: 22ish, toned, latino, dark green shirt, green cap. Had younger friend with you. Me: 26, Jackie O sunglasses, saw you walking east on Alexander. You family? **When: Monday, May 12, 2008. Where: Corvallis Clinton rally. You: Man. Me: Man. #900057**

LATITUDE/HILTON WOMAN

you were waiting for a ride outside latitude on thur night, the outside the hilton. I offered u a ride should have offered u dinner. dinner/drinks???? **When: Thursday, May 15, 2008. Where: latitude 21 and hilton. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900056**

REWARD 5-14 J.HENRYS

Black purse/T-mobile Nokia. My address is on my license. Please send my sim and memory card to me. ALL the videos I own of my kids are on there. : **When: Wednesday, May 14, 2008. Where: John Henrys. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900055**

DELICIOUS BLONDE GODDESS

I was standing on front of Downtown Languages you say "how's goin'", I couldn't believe you talk to me, but if you wanna we can meet for coffe or tea. **When: Thursday, May 15, 2008. Where: near to Willamette & 10th corner. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900054**

BLONDE NATURAL BEAUTY

ankle tats, Hair up, pleasant smile, beautiful, breath of fresh air, you bought beer, rice cakes, then saw you at Selco ATM, me with 2 cute children. Single? Conversation? **When: Wednesday, May 14, 2008. Where: market of choice 29th. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900053**

BRUHADES

You may not believe me but I miss you to my core. I love you deeply and always will. **When: Tuesday, April 29, 2008. Where: Everywhere. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900037**

DRIVING POORLY...

...because you got me flustered! I was the brunette in the silver Subaru and you were trying to yield to me. Sorry! Let's go for a ride sometime. Coffee? **When: Wednesday, May 14, 2008. Where: Fred Meyer on Tith. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900052**

MAY 2ND

DeAnna you stopped by on Evan's b-day May 2. We left you a package. Please stop by again. We would like to get in touch. **When: Friday, May 2, 2008. Where: Downtown. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900051**

REVEREND

You make me want to be a better person. Thank you for supporting /loving me throughout this life-changing experience. I can't wait until I'm back in your arms. sub J **When: Saturday, May 10, 2008. Where: 18th /Olive. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900049**

FROM YOUR BARISTA

You have a shaved head and red glasses. You sometimes study at the 5th street beaenry. You put your hands on your head when you concentrate, it's freakin adorable. **When: Sunday, May 4, 2008. Where: 5th street beaenry. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #900048**

DONALD & DARKSTAR

hi... i danced... you drummed... and i continue to worry about you... hope all is well... **When: Sunday, May 4, 2008. Where: Dark Star Orchestra concert. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900047**

YARD SALE HOTTIE

bought a wagon at your sale but didn't know it came with everything. Is there anything else you want to sell me? Your best customer **When: Thursday, May 1, 2008. Where: polk street. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900046**

FARLEY

It's been years! We went to your hometown/met your folks/picked up your dog. Remember Patches(ClarenceCarter)? We hung out on your porch when you lived near Washington/10th. Are you still around?? **When: Thursday, April 6, 2006. Where: Eugene. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900044**

LITTLE RED CEDAR

You: red-haired Bene girl at the bus stop (18th/Willamette). I enjoyed talking to you, and I should have asked if you are single. Lets have coffee/drinks sometime? Another conversation... **When: Sunday, May 4, 2008. Where: 18th and Willamette (bus stop). You: Woman. Me: Man. #900043**

- Browse local postings
- Post your own profile
- Connect with local singles

Respond to a Kink ad. Visit wink-kink.com and enter the ad ID
Ads with a ☞ have Voice Mail Messages call 1-520-547-3020
(Charges may apply)



WOMEN SEEKING MEN

LOVEME

Well I was pretty much lied to for the past 2 years and 4 months by someone I love/loved... I just need someone who is there for me.... Nikki, 18, ☞, #101556

ATTENTION!

Just looking for a nice man, ages 21-35, for some good clean fun. akaska2000, 44, #101282

"PAINISSOCLOSETOPLEASURE"
Dabbler seeks more experience, Dom&Sub. Tall, Curvy, Busty, Booty-endowed. Sane, safe, and disease-free UB2. UB 21-50, honest, open and willing to give pointers and feed-back. Chatting first then meeting. PussyControl, 28, #101178



WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN

STUDENT IS READY

SWF wants to explore bi-side. Are you my teacher? Weekends and evenings. NS ND. Very clean. Can host. Love toys. Help me explore my sexuality. Be gentle and loving. alwaysready, 55, #101549

VERY HORNY LEZ

I'm a 31 y/o lesbian from Eugene, looking for a woman to set my bed on fire with. I'm 5'2, 125lb, nicely shaped body, 34D, work out alot, been told I'm "hot". 18 and over. :). kashmir08, 31, ☞, #101516

SEX STARVED

sweet girl seeks naughty sexual partners, girl on girl, or couple, ltr possible. Be drug and disease free. Kinky but intelegent. The mind is the biggest turn on. Lets play scrabble naked. betty-blue, 36, #101399

A WOMAN'S TOUCH

Looking for a woman who is descret but can make me squirm until I scream. I am openminded and private but know what I like and know how to please. OSU08, 25, ☞, #101382

QUEEN BEE

Hi I'm 18 college student! I am looking for some new adventures! A female adventure cus I've been curious. Or a male who is cool! Must be clean and disease free! queenb8020, 18, #101273



WOMEN SEEKING ...

BI LEZ

Just looking for a little NSA fun and sexploration, with intelligent, fun articulate people. Must be STD-free. Discreet, safe sex only. bilez, 50, #101518

SEXY GIRLIE GIRL

with preference for transmen, also into butches and men seeking honest, kind, passionate person with intact sense of humor to date, play with, FWB's. Want stimulating conversation and fantastic chemistry I offer what I seek. trannylover, 32, ☞, #101377

I WANT PLEASURE

I'm bored & tired of this vanilla world. I like 2 get what I want & please others. Live life to the full extent of what you imagine & what you want. DESIRE, 24, ☞, #101108



MEN SEEKING WOMEN

ORAL LOVER

seeking sexual release, love to give oral and hope to taste you all over me. latin_eugene, 32, #101567

TANTSUJIN SEEKS GEISHA

I seek a Geisha that desires to explore her submissiveness. Through Tantric conditioning I will take you to heights of sensual experience have never dreamt possible. Is she out there? TatsujinUS, 41, ☞, #101562

BIG STRONG LONG

sexy, attractive, adventurous, clean women for getting down and dirty and having big fun. tallforfun, 42, ☞, #101543

HORMONALLY CRAZED SCORPIO

Im a 23 y/old male lookin for a playmate. somebody who is very open minded, down to earth, clean and respectful, like me. Scorpio, 23, #101533

BHM 4 BBW

Looking for discreet affair with Bigger women/woman your place. Frankie, 43, ☞, #101525

THE BEST

you won't regret it. soccer-dude9988, 20, #101514

GOOD TIMES ONLY

young business professional who is looking for very discreet fun encounters with married females who want some fun on the side. But also open to other fun as well...!! adams4fun, 27, #101513

SEPREH

Cool, fun, sexually Charged, vocal, and respectful. I got herpes so thats the deal. sexylover, 28, #101509

LIFE, LOVE, LAUGH

You Female(18-28). Me Male(20). I'm responsible, self reliant, full time worker, interested in music, computers, art, outdoors. Creative, funny, caring, passionate, curious, charming, intelligent, mostly self sustaining. Lookin for similair. Just_Joshin, 20, ☞, #101507



MEN SEEKING MEN

BOTTOM

I'm a clean STD bottom looking for a discreet top for either NSA or multiple casual encounters, use your imagination, I'm into it... bottom, 22, #101366

SOAPY SHOWER NEEDED!

I'm a married bi guy who wants to meet other younger guys and take a soapy shower together and make me lick the soap off your body!! soapymouth, 69, #101183



MEN SEEKING ...

LOVIN' LONG TIME

Couples, men, Submissive-me...cater both in the bedroom. Insist being "dressed" in the bedroom. Nothing to dismiss in the bedroom. Uofo...party favors in the bedroom. What do you want from me? teddyselina, 45, ☞, #101572

BI-MAN LOVES ASS

Bi man, very oral and anal, seeks biM-F couples, women, men for rimming, fisting, more. biviator, 58, #101544

NOW OPEN

Just looking for open minded, kinky playmates. Must be clean and intelligent. Pretty much open to anything. alan, 36, #101501

SUBMISSIVE SEEKING SEX

Bearish, attractive submissive who loves to please, late 40s, seeking casual encounters. Willing to play sub, be dominated. Would prefer bear tops, but willing to experiment with couples, others. Volcano22, 47, #101542



COUPLES SEEKING ...

TURN YOU ON!

Married couple, man and woman looking for fun, discreet, and assorted and new experiences. Man/Woman singly, couples or group. We are available to learn and teach, open to all suggestions! like2play22, 48, #101552

BLONDE 4 INTERRACIAL

Married white couple seeking black male for discreet NSA fun. If you like the idea of banging a sexy thin but well endowed blonde housewife we need to meet! Eugeneecpl, 34, ☞, #101530

NOVICE SWINGERS COUPLE

We are an in love couple seeking friends. We enjoy many night activities and some we don't yet know we enjoy. Got any idea's or suggestions get with us. petekarlainoregon, 48, ☞, #101495

UP FOR FUN

We are mid 20's and enjoy meeting new ladies for fun and interesting times. We do NOT like tweakers or junkies!! Open 2 meet people who are educated, nature loving, sensual and sexy. cpl4fun, 25, ☞, #101471

CHUBBY CHICKS?

My wife and I are a BBC looking for a BBW to spice things up in the sack. My wife is extremely Bi curious. 3sometime, 30, #101280



OTHER

PROTOCOL STYLE BDSM

La Societe de Fleurs is looking for M/F/T (etc) submissives. Subs must be 21+ and eager to be used for experimental purposes. Safe and consensual play. Mutual enjoyment is mandatory. madame_rosse, 30, ☞, #101068

Savage Love

WORDS OF PURE WISDOM by Dan Savage



I'm writing on behalf of a 19-year-old guy with cerebral palsy.

As you may know, CP is a brain affliction resulting from insufficient oxygen at birth, and it causes the part of the brain responsible for motor function to work incorrectly. Troubles for people with CP include muscle spasticity, weakness, and/or painful contraction, and in some cases a life spent in a wheelchair.

My buddy is, like any 19-year-old, interested in finding out more about his sexuality. He has watched his peers develop sexually but hasn't had the opportunity to do so himself. Intimacy aside, are there any services that you know of that could help him to experience sex for the first time? I don't mean to buy the guy a hooker or anything like that, but I wondered if there are people who would assist him and a girl (disabled or otherwise) into bed.

Thanks, and keep up the great column. I've been a reader for years...

Friend In Deed

"Your reader shouldn't make assumptions about what having sex or being sexual means to his friend," says Cory Silverberg, coauthor of *The Ultimate Guide to Sex and Disability*. What if your friend doesn't want to get into bed with a girl but head into a dungeon with one? Or two? Or what if your friend is gay? Or what if all he really wants is to make it with a plush toy or a picnic table?

"Just like we do with everyone," says Cory, "we tend to assume folks with disabilities are straight and just want to have penile-vaginal intercourse and some oral sex. We're almost always wrong. So the first thing he should do is ask his friend what he's interested in."

Cory also suggests that you ask your friend if he's having sex with himself, since masturbation is the easiest way for a person to explore his sexuality. "Mobility disabilities can make masturbation tricky," says Cory, "but never impossible. Privacy and motor control can be challenging, but there are many workarounds."

If your friend has or finds a partner and needs physical assistance during sex, you might want to help him find an attendant, a person who works with physically disabled people, who is comfortable positioning him and a partner in bed, assisting with condoms and cleaning up. "In my experience," says Cory, "attendants who are queer tend to be more comfortable talking about sex and making that kind of assistance part of their job description, but that doesn't rule out straight ones."

So if your friend has plenty of sex with himself and has a good idea what he'd like to do but doesn't have a partner to do it with, what do you do then? "I don't have any new suggestions here," says Cory. "He should get out there, use online and virtual spaces, join a social group related to something he's passionate about – all of these are good ways to meet people. Paying for sex is also an option, but avoid the escort ads and try to get a referral from someone you know and trust."

I was in a chat room today and a guy asked if he could see my belly button. Of course, my fetish alarm went off. Turns out this guy is 19, disabled and feels like a total social/sexual outcast. Because of his physical problems and his fetish, he said he felt like he'd never have a normal relationship. I couldn't lie to the kid and say "Don't worry, pumpkin, your soul mate will find you someday," so instead I offered "Most people are assholes – and this comes from an able-bodied vanilla girl, so yeah, your life's gonna be tough."

Then I thought there must be some kind of internet group out there for disabled fetishists. It might also make him feel more normal, and he may be able to arrange an amazing you-can-fetishize-my-disability-if-I-can-jerk-off-in-your-belly-button relationship. I'm torn up thinking about this kid and want to do something for him.

Trying To Help A Kid Out

"Your reader probably feels like she is doing a good thing," says Cory, "but she should tone down the condescension [about fetishes and disability]." Cory feels strongly that people with disabilities shouldn't be told they *must* look exclusively to disability fetishists for partners. "But there are people who have a specific sexual preference for people with disabilities," says Cory, "and they identify themselves as devotees and in most cases the disabilities they prefer are people missing limbs and people in wheelchairs."

Ascot World (www.ascotworld.com), according to Cory, "is still one of the biggest and best devotee sites and offers links to discussion groups, which, if this guy is interested, are one place to look for people."

Now before angry able-bodied folks take offense on behalf of the disabled and fill my inbox with angry letters about creepy devotees, please wrap your able-bodied heads around this: If you believe in equal treatment for people with disabilities – and you do, right? – then that extends to sex. We all want to be objectified from time to time, and a disabled person has just as much right to healthy objectification as any able-bodied person. There's really not much difference between a leg man and a lack-of-leg man – well, except this: The more common a fetish is, the less likely we are to regard it as one.

"But a lot of devotees don't think of themselves as fetishists," adds Cory. "They compare their interests to someone who likes red hair or big boobs, more of a preference or something they have an emotional connection to rather than something they absolutely need to get off."

Please help me. I'm 38 and have no boyfriend or friends to go out with. I have been in a wheelchair for 10 years with a hereditary condition. I have low self-esteem, which does not help. I don't know how to fix it. If I do ever go somewhere on my own, I never find people that want to talk, and my life is so boring.

Dying Out Here

"The effects of the social isolation people with disabilities face can include depression," says Cory, "and from this brief note, that's my first concern." Cory thinks you might benefit from seeing someone – *le shrink* – about your general mental health before you start looking for a boyfriend. "The reader wants to 'fix' the problem, but the truth is that there isn't any quick or easy fix, especially when it comes to self-esteem. But taking some action to change your situation can make you feel more positive about yourself and what you have to offer others."

Once you've sought out some help for your depression, Cory suggests you "find some volunteer work that is accessible [or] join a social group or club" – basically follow the standard-issue advice for any lonely person, able-bodied or not. You also might want to check out these disability dating websites: www.dawn-disabled-dating.com, www.disableddatingclub.com, www.enablelove.com, www.lovebyrd.com and www.specialsinglesonline.com

Cory also wanted me to pass on these resources: Independent Living USA (www.ilusa.com); info on seeing a sexual surrogate (www.pacificnews.org/marko/sex-surrogate.html); some practical suggestions from Outsiders, a UK disability-rights group (www.outsiders.org.uk/practical-suggestions); and Queers on Wheels (www.queersonwheels.com). Cory also writes for, and maintains, a sex and disability resources page at About.com

Finally, all three authors of *The Ultimate Guide to Sex and Disability* – Miriam Kaufman, Fran Odette, and Cory Silverberg – are happy to help others with suggestions and can be reached via email at sex.disability@gmail.com Cory also takes questions this week on the *Savage Lovecast*, my weekly podcast, which you can download at www.thestranger.com/savage.

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